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ROXBURGH COUNTY COUNCIL



REPORT

OF THE

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE

YEAR 1953



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STAFF

at 31st December, 1953.

MEDICAL, DENTAL AND NURSING

	Date of Appointment
A.F. MCCOUBREY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., County Medical Officer	16/9/53
I.B. SUTHERLAND, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Assistant Medical Officer	17/8/53
DOROTHY M.M. FORTH, M.B., Ch.B., Assistant Medical Officer	7/2/53
Mrs. CHRISTINE E. GRIEVE, L.D.S., Senior Dental Officer	15/1/53
C.M. URQUHART, L.D.S., Area Dental Officer	14/11/53
M.H. HAMILTON, R.G.N., School Dental Assistant... ..	1/8/49
E.P. HENDERSON, School Dental Nurse	9/10/53

SANITARY, ETC.

H.D. BELL, Area Sanitary Inspector... ..	15/5/53
ALASTAIR I. FRASER, Area Sanitary Inspector	16/4/53
A.K. MURPHY, Water Engineer... ..	19/9/53
JOHN WANLESS, Housing Inspector	29/1/53
E.M. THOMPSON, Joint Milk Officer	16/3/53

CLERICAL

Mrs. E. SYME, Chief Clerk	16/11/53
A.M.R. GRIEVE, Senior Clerkess-Typist	16/11/53
C.M. WILSON, Clerkess-Typist... ..	17/12/53
Mrs. C.M. PAXTON, Clerkess-Typist	12/8/53
ELIZABETH S. LOTHIAN, Junior Clerkess-Typist	22/5/53
NORAH W. EDGAR, Junior Clerkess-Typist	23/1/53
ELIZABETH C.L. ROBSON, Junior Clerkess	7/12/53

CHANGES IN STAFF

KENNEDY CAMPBELL, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., L.M., Assistant Medical Officer	Resigned 11/8/53
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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FOR SCOTLAND,
THE CONVENER AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS
THE COUNTY OF ROXBURGH.

My Graces, My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Annual Report for 1953

The vital statistics for the year are, on the whole, satisfactory. There has been a fall in the number of deaths from tuberculosis and a reduction of the infantile mortality rate, while the general death rate was almost the same as that for 1952. Against these satisfactory figures there must be set the fall in the birth-rate, a rise in the still-birth rate, and an increase in the number of notifications of primary tuberculosis. Although births exceeded deaths by 29, the estimated population of the County fell by almost 330 persons.

In my Annual Report for 1952 I drew attention to the death-rate from cancer. During that year it accounted for fully 14% of all deaths in the County, and was the largest single cause of death apart from heart and arterial conditions. The figures this year are almost identical but it is interesting to note the age groups affected. Almost all of the deaths from cancer are within the wage-earning group, i.e. under 65. The common impression is that cancer is a disease particularly affecting old people, but from these figures it is suggested that efforts to discover the cause of cancer should be generously supported as a measure to maintain the economic life of the community.

For the third year in succession no case of diphtheria has occurred in the County. While there is reason for satisfaction with such a situation, it cannot be emphasised too often that to maintain such results a high level of immunisation must be attained in the whole community - somewhere in the region of 75 per cent. Figures for the County show that only 57 per cent of children born in 1952 were immunised during that year, and I would earnestly appeal to all parents to have their children immunised against diphtheria before their children have reached their first birthday.

Vaccination against whooping cough is now also being offered to children and this vaccine can be given combined with diphtheria vaccine. While not quite so effective as diphtheria immunisation, there is evidence that the course of this distressing disease can be at least greatly modified by vaccination.

The great amount of work done by our District Nurses is shown in the tables relating to the Nursing Services. It should not be forgotten, however, that the rural District Nurse is not wholly a person who attends the sick and assists at childbirth. As an all-purpose nurse she has important duties in the giving of advice as to healthy living, immunisation, child welfare, and other aspects of preventive medicine. Unfortunately, this part of her work is often out of sight because of the great demands made upon her time by her other duties. In larger communities Health Visitors have such duties, their whole-time occupation but such a service is not practicable in a rural community. As a Local Health Authority, interested in the prevention of illness rather than in attending it after it has occurred, our attention should be focussed more often than it is on this important part of a district nurse's duties.

Several drainage schemes have been approved during the year when completed they will help to raise the standard of living conditions in the villages concerned. In addition, they will improve the amenities of the countryside and help to prevent the pollution of our rivers and streams.

An adequate supply of wholesome water is a 'sine qua non' of modern living, yet some of our villages are served by schemes which are not reliable. In addition, the numbers of new houses being erected and the many improvements being made to existing properties to bring them up to modern standards are placing demands upon the various water supplies which the latter were not built to deliver. The discussions which are at present proceeding regarding a proposed gravitational water supply for the County from Alemoor Loch are making good progress, and if adopted, the scheme should ensure an adequate water supply to most of the County for many generations.

The decision of the County Council to add to their schemes made under the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947, the offer of B.C.G. Vaccination to children of school-leaving age is a notable addition to the preventive medical services of the County.

I would again take this opportunity of thanking the Convener of the Health and Welfare Committee and all members of the County Council for their interest and support during the year. I would also acknowledge the loyal and unstinted help given me by all members of the staff of the Health Department, and the advice and guidance of my fellow officials.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,

A. F. MCCOUBREY,
Medical officer of Health

COUNTY OF ROXBURGH

VITAL STATISTICS

Population (estimated to middle of 1953,

Landward		18,255
Burghs		
Hawick	16,699	
Jedburgh	4,062	
Kelso	4,077	
Melrose	<u>2,169</u>	<u>27,007</u>
		45,262

Births

The births corrected for transfers were

	Total	Male	Female	Illegitimate
Landward	261	129	132	18
Burghs				
Hawick	231	131	100	7
Jedburgh	66	29	37	5
Kelso	59	27	32	3
Melrose	29	9	20	—
	<u>646</u>	<u>325</u>	<u>321</u>	<u>33</u>

The birth-rate of 14.3 is 0.7 lower than the figure recorded in 1952.

Illegitimate births amounted to 5.1 per cent of the total.

The number of Still-births was 16 giving a rate of 24 per 1,000 total births (including Still-births).

Marriages

Two hundred and forty eight marriages were registered during the year, giving a marriage rate of 5.5 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

Deaths

The number of deaths corrected for transfers was 617, of which 339 were of men and 278 of women. The death rate, adjusted for age and sex distribution, was 13.6. The rate for Scotland was 11.5.

The numbers, causes and age-groups of death are shown in the following table.

1953 - Causes of Death	Ages Both Sexes	M.	F.	Under 4 wks.	4 wks.-	1-	5-	10-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	85 and over
Brought forward ..	522	234	288	-	1	-	1	-	2	4	8	38	76	174	169	49
Bronchitis ..	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	2	-
Other respiratory diseases ..	6	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	2	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Appendicitis ..	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-
Intestinal obstruction and hernia ..	5	1	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	1	-
Gastritis and duodenitis ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diarrhoea (except of newborn) ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-
Cirrhosis of liver ..	4	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	-	-
Other diseases of liver ..	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other digestive diseases ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis ..	7	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	3	1
Hyperplasia of prostate ..	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	3	-
Other diseases of genito urinary system ..	4	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-
Puerperal sepsis including post abortive sepsis ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other puerperal causes ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diseases of skin and organs of locomotion ..	1	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Congenital malformations ..	6	-	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birth injuries, post natal asphyxia and atelectasis ..	2	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia of newborn ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diarrhoea of newborn ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other infections of the newborn ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other diseases peculiar to early infancy ..	6	3	3	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4
Senility ..	6	3	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Causes ill-defined and unknown ..	5	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-
Suicide ..	4	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Motor vehicle accidents ..	4	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
Other road transport accidents ..	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other violence ..	17	9	8	-	1	-	-	1	1	2	-	2	3	2	3	2
	617	278	339	11	6	1	1	1	3	9	16	45	90	186	187	61

Infantile Mortality.

The number of deaths of children aged less than one year was and of this number 11 were aged less than four weeks. The infant mortality rate was 26 per 1,000 live births.

The numbers, causes and age-groups of infantile deaths contained in the following table:-

Table I.M. 1953

Cause of Death	No. of Deaths	M	F	Death Rate per 1,000 Births	Age Groups			
					Under 1 wk.	1-4 wks.	1-3 mths	3-6 mths.
Pneumonia (except of newborn)...	1	-	1	1.55	-	-	1	-
Intestinal obstruction and hernia ...	1	-	1	1.55	-	-	-	1
Congenital malformations ...	6	3	3	9.29	3	-	2	-
Birth injuries, post-natal asphyxia and atelectasis...	2	-	2	3.10	2	-	-	-
Other diseases peculiar to early infancy	6	3	3	9.29	6	-	-	-
Other violence	1	1	-	1.55	-	-	-	-
Totals ...	17	7	10		11	-	3	1
Death Rate per 1,000 Births				26	17.03	-	4.64	1.55

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1947.

1. Care of Mothers and Young Children.

(1) Ante-natal and post-natal service.

No ante-natal or post-natal clinics are provided by the L. Authority.

(2) Child Welfare Clinics.

Clinics are in operation at Hawick (weekly), Kelso, Jedburgh, Melrose (fortnightly), and Newtown and St. Boswells (monthly). Attendances during the year are shown in the following table:-

(1)	No of clinics provided at end of year (2)	No. of children attending the clinics during year and who on the date of their first attendance this year were:-		Total No of attendances made during year by children who at time of attendance were:-	
		under 1 year of age (3)	over 1 year of age (4)	under 1 year of age (5)	over 1 year of age (6)
Local Health Authority Clinics	6	312	51	3751	419
Clinics provided by Voluntary Organisations	-	-	-	-	-

Dental Care.

(1)	No inspected by Dental Officers during the year (2)	No found to require treatment during the year (3)	No. accepting treatment during the year (4)	No actually treated by Dental Officers during the year (5)
Expectant Mothers	-	-	-	-
Nursing Mothers	-	-	-	-
Pre-school children . . .	48	48	48	48

Nurseries provided by Manufacturers.

The following table shows statistics relating to Nurseries privately provided in the Burgh of Hawick viz:-

(1)	State whether approved for training (2)	No of approved places		No. of children on register at end of year		Average daily attendances during year		Waiting Lists at end of year	
		0-2 (3)	2-5 (4)	0-2 (5)	2-5 (6)	0-2 (7)	2-5 (8)	0-2 (9)	2-5 (10)
Hawick Hosiery Manufacturers' Association, St Andrew's Church Hall, Union Street, Hawick	No	-	50	-	50	-	37	-	-
Peter Scott & Co. Ltd., 11 Buccleuch Street, Hawick	No	-	16	-	13	-	13	-	-
Robert Noble & Co Ltd, Glebe Mills, Hawick	No	4	12	-	11	1	15	-	-

2. Midwifery.

The following is a statistical record of the work carried under Section 23 of the Act:-

- (a) Total number of births (including still-births) occurring in the area during the year - before correction for mother's residence ... 509
- (b) Total number of births in (a) occurring in institutions and private maternity homes... 397
- (c) Total number of births in (a) occurring at home 112
- (d) Number of births in (c) classified to show nature of attendance at birth:-

	Cases dealt with under Section 23(2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947			Other domiciliary cases				Tot
	Doctor engaged and present at confinement	Doctor engaged and not present at confinement	Midwife alone (no doctor engaged)	Doctor and midwife engaged	Midwife alone (no doctor engaged)	Without doctor or midwife	All other cases	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
(a) Midwives employed by the Authority (including those engaged on a fee-per-case basis...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
(b) Midwives employed by Voluntary Organisations under arrangements made by the Authority ...	62	42	-	-	-	-	-	1
(c) Midwives employed by Hospital Boards of Management under arrangements made by the Authority with the Regional Hospital Board...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
(d) Private practising midwives ...	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	
(e) Other cases not classified above...	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
(f) Totals ...	62	42	-	7	-	-	1	11

(e) Medical Aid

No. of cases in which medical aid was summoned during the year under Section 14(1) of the Midwives (Scotland) Act, 1951 by a Midwife:-

	Total
For Domiciliary Cases	Nil
For Institutional Cases	Nil

Administration of Analgesia

No. of domiciliary midwives in the area qualified to administer gas and air analgesia in accordance with the requirements of the Central Midwives Board for Scotland

16

No. employed on local health authority work	16
No. not employed on local health authority work	-

No. of domiciliary midwives who received their training during the year... ..

--

No. of sets of apparatus for the administration of gas and air in use in the area at 31st December, 1953

1

No. in use by domiciliary midwives employed on local health authority work (including those in use by hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases)

1

No. in use by domiciliary midwives not employed on local health authority work... ..

--

No. of sets on order at 31st December, 1953...

--

No. of cases in which gas and air was administered by midwives in domiciliary practice during the year (including cases attended by hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases):-

When doctor was not present at delivery ...	-
When doctor was present at delivery ...	-

-

No. of cases in which pethidine was administered by midwives in domiciliary practice during the year (including cases attended by hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases):-

When doctor was not present at delivery ..	-
When doctor was present at delivery ...	6

6

No. of cars in use by midwives at 31st December, 1953

15

Health Visiting.

The Health Visiting is undertaken by the District Nursing Sisters employed by the Roxburgh Nursing Board and carrying out combined duties in their respective areas. The following figures relate to health visiting during the year:-

(1)	No. of Visits paid by Health Visitors (or by District Nurses in their capacity as Health Visitors during the year										
	Expectant Mothers *		Children under 1 yr.		Children between 1 and 5		Tuber- culosis cases		Other Cases		Tot
	No. Vis.	Total Vis.	No. Vis.	Total Vis.	No. Vis.	Total Vis.	No. Vis.	Total Vis.	No. Vis.	Total Vis.	Visi Pai
(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	
Health Visitors employed by the Authority	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Health Visitors employed by Voluntary Organisations	-	-	844	6915	657	7508	146	1101	-	-	155

* These visits do not include visits paid by a midwife-health visitor who attended the confinement as a midwife or maternity nurse

4. Home Nursing.

This service has been efficiently maintained during the year the District Nursing Sisters.

No. of cases attended by the district nursing sisters 2,001

No. of visits paid to these cases 37,719

5. Domestic Help

The scheme functions satisfactorily under the jurisdiction of the Chief Welfare Officer in conjunction with the Nursing Superintendent. The following figures relate to the working of the Scheme during the year:-

(i) No of Domestic Helps employed at end of year ... 30

(a) whole-time -
 (b) part-time 30
 (c) retaining fee basis -

(ii) No. of cases for which Helps were provided during the year. ... 66

(iii) No. of cases in (ii) provided on account of confinement:-

(a) at home 2
 (b) in hospital... .. -

(iv) No. of cases in (ii) provided on account of chronic sick including aged and infirm ... 59

Domiciliary Midwifery and Local Health Authority Nursing Services

Combined duties in Midwifery, Home Nursing and Health Visiting services:-

	Directly employed by Local Health Authority		Employed by Voluntary Organisations including District Nursing Assocs		No. holding Health Visitor Certificate
	Whole-time	Part-time	Whole-time	Part-time	
Nurses and Midwives on combined duties in the midwifery, Home Nursing and Health Visiting services employed in the following categories:-					
Superintendent (or Chief) Nursing Officers	-	-	1	-	1
Nurses and Midwives employed on:- Midwifery, Health Visiting and Home Nursing duties ...	-	-	18	-	5
Total ...	-	-	19	-	6

Vaccination and Immunisation

Vaccination is carried out by the Medical Practitioners. The following table shows the number of persons vaccinated during the year:-

Year of birth of persons	Number of persons primarily vaccinated during period					Number of persons re-vaccinated during period				Complications at vaccinations
	Typical vaccinia greatest at 7th-10th day	Accelerated (vaccinoid) re-action 5th-7th day	Re-action greatest at 2nd-3rd day	No local re-action		Typical vaccinia greatest at 7th-10th day	Accelerated (vaccinoid) re-action 5th-7th day	Re-action greatest at 2nd-3rd day	No local re-action	
1953	258	1	2	10		-	-	-	-	-
1952	98	-	1	-		-	-	-	-	-
1951	2	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-
1950	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-
1949	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-
1948	-	-	-	1		2	1	-	-	-
1947	-	-	-	-		1	-	-	-	-
1946	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-
1945	1	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-
1944	1	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-
1943	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	1	-
1942	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-
1941	1	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-
1940	-	-	-	-		1	-	-	-	-
1939	2	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-
1938 or earlier	5	-	-	-		15	7	3	2	-
Totals	368	1	3	11		19	8	3	3	-

Immunisation against diphtheria is carried out by the Medical Practitioners and by my Assistants as well as by the district nursing sisters in rural areas. During the year 517 pre-school and 40 school children were immunised and 598 maintenance doses were given.

Prevention of illness, care and after-care.

Tuberculosis.

The number of cases notified as suffering from Tuberculosis was 46 which 27 cases have been confirmed.

The notifications are divided according to sex and form of lesion as follows: -

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	- Male	19
	Female	13
Total		32

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	- Male	6
	Female	8
Total		14

Tuberculosis - All Forms	- Male	25
	Female	21
Total		46

Including patients receiving Sanatorium treatment, there were at the end of the year 373 persons resident in the County known to be suffering from Tuberculosis. Classification of these patients according to age and localisation of the disease is shown in the following table: -

T B. Table - NUMBER OF CASES IN AGE-GROUPS.

		under 1	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-65	65 and upwards	Total
RESPIRATORY -											
1. Sputum or other material) examined and tubercle) ... bacilli found)	M	-	-	-	-	13	17	20	25	6	81
	F	-	-	-	1	21	17	8	7	1	55
2. Sputum or other material) examined and tubercle) ... bacilli never found)	M	-	1	-	-	6	10	3	5	1	26
	F	-	1	-	-	11	11	5	3	1	32
3. Sputum or other material) not examined) ...	M	-	1	2	1	7	8	3	5	-	26
	F	-	1	-	1	8	7	6	1	1	25
TOTAL		-	3	2	3	66	70	45	46	10	245
NON-RESPIRATORY -											
1. Abdominal...) ...) ...)	M	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2
	F	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	1	-	5
2. Spine) ...) ...)	M	-	1	-	2	-	2	1	-	-	6
	F	-	-	-	1	-	2	2	3	1	10
3. Bone's and joints (exclusive) of spine)	M	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	-	4
	F	-	-	1	2	1	2	1	5	-	12
4. Superficial glands) ...)	M	-	1	8	6	8	2	-	1	-	25
	F	-	-	7	3	10	6	2	5	2	36
5. Lupus) ...) ...)	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	6
6. Other parts or organs...)	M	-	-	-	2	1	4	1	3	-	11
	F	-	1	1	-	5	2	1	1	-	11
TOTAL		-	5	16	15	37	31	19	20	5	138

Co-operation with the Area Tuberculosis Physician during the year has resulted in good progress with regard to the care and after-treatment of persons suffering from Tuberculosis and domiciliary nursing visits by the District Nursing Sisters have continued throughout the year.

A grant of two pints of milk daily was made to all patients residing at home who were certified by the Area Tuberculosis Physician requiring it. At the end of the year 17 persons were benefitting from this scheme.

The Housing Authorities in the area continue to give sympathetic consideration to applications made by, or on behalf of, those suffering from Tuberculosis.

Preval Diseases

Where necessary, defaulting patients have been persuaded to resume treatment.

Infectious Diseases

One hundred and sixty-one notifications of infectious disease (excluding tuberculosis) were received during the year, of which 32 cases were removed to hospital, as follows:-

	Notified.	Removed to Hospital.
Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	1
Erysipelas	3	-
Malaria	2	-
Acute Primary Pneumonia	4	-
Pneumonia (not otherwise notifiable)	5	-
Poliomyelitis, Acute	1	1
Puerperal Fever... ..	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	2
Scarlet Fever	51	25
Typhoid Fever	4	-
Whooping Cough	87	2
	<u>161</u>	<u>32</u>

Mental Health

Number of children (school and pre-school) on active register at January 1st, 1953 46

During the period January - December, 1953 -

1 Imbecile girl died .

2 Feeble-minded boys were admitted to Gogarburn.

2 Feeble-minded girls were admitted to Gogarburn.

1 Mongol girl was admitted to Gogarburn.

1 Feeble-minded boy removed to Clovenfords, Selkirkshire.

2 Imbecile boys removed to Mindrum, Northumberland.

1 Feeble-minded boy removed to Inverness.

1 Mongol boy removed to Ormskirk, Lancs.

The remaining 35 children may be classified as follows:-

MEDICAL CLASSIFICATION

						<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females</i>
Feeble-minded	...	...	...	...	16	13	3
Mongols	...	...	...	...	6	4	2
Imbeciles	...	...	...	...	12	6	6
Idiots	...	...	...	...	1	1	-
					<u>35</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>11</u>

EDUCATIONAL CLASSIFICATION

						<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Educable	...	...	...	...	17	14	3
Ineducable	...	...	...	...	17	9	8
Under school age	...	...	...	...	1	1	-
					<u>35</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>11</u>
Number of children with both mental and physical handicap	...				11	6	5

Seven clinical Sessions were held by Dr. Bailey, the Consultant Psychiatrist, at which a total of 35 children were examined -

					<i>Clinics.</i>	<i>Cases.</i>
Hawick	...	...	...		3	17
Kelso	...	...	...		2	9
Jedburgh	...	...	...		2	9
					7	35

A total of 22 domiciliary visits were made by the Medical Officers. An attempt is being made to visit in their own homes a children with mental defect, at regular intervals, in order to ensure constant supervision and follow-up.

It is gratifying to note that during the year Dr. Bailey was in a position to offer considerably more places in Gogarburn Institution to children from the county than in previous years. Nevertheless because of the great shortage of this type of accommodation, several distressing cases are still awaiting admission.

Attention must be drawn once more to the lack of provision of special educational facilities for mentally handicapped children in the county. The work of ascertaining, examining and accurately diagnosing these children loses part of its value when recommendations for their educational management cannot be met. In the connection it should be pointed out that the above statistics describing as they do the incidence of only the most obvious cases of mental defect, do not accurately sum up the numbers of mentally retarded pupils for whom educational provision should be made. It is recommended by the Advisory Council on Education in Scotland that an incidence of 1.5 per cent of pupils be assumed in making provision for the education of mentally retarded pupils. Taking the school

ulation of the county as 6,000, this gives an estimate of 90 children requiring special educational facilities. This estimate is inclusive of the ineducable children, a number of whom would benefit from training in occupational centres. The difficulties of setting up special schools and classes in rural areas are, of course, great. It is recommended that a start be made by ascertaining the numbers of children involved: this could be done -

- (a) by examining returns from all teachers of mentally dull children in their classes;
- (b) by school-to-school surveys, using group and individual tests.

WELFARE.

ACCOUNT OF WORK UNDERTAKEN IN THE COMMUNITY

National Assistance Act 1948 -

Section 21 - Residential Accommodation.

During the year 1953 the number of applications under this heading was 29, disposed of as under:-

Admissions to Joint-User Establishments (Inch Hospital)	1
Other Local Authority Homes	3
Voluntary Homes	12 *
to hospitals being properly medical cases	11
Applications pending at 31/12/53	2
	<hr/>
	29

Does not include 3 children born in the Tor Nursing Home, Edinburgh

See Appendix for analysis of the Residents for whom the County is responsible. (Page 25)

It will be seen that the number of residents living in hospital premises (Drumlanrig and Inch Hospitals) under Part III arrangements is 21 as compared with 25 at the beginning of the year. With the opening of Weens Eventide Home (Hawick & District Eventide Homes Ltd.) in March 1953, the number for whom the County was responsible financially rose immediately, so that by the end of the year the analysis was:-

In hospital premises	21	
In voluntary Homes	15	
In other Local Authority Homes	6	Total 42

Weens House with 28 beds will be a distinct asset to the people of Hawick and District.

The opening of Deanfield, Hawick, the County's first Eventide Home (18 beds) will be realised early in 1954, and Queen's House, owned by the Cross Housing Association (Roxburghshire) Ltd, with 38 beds will open somewhat later. These two Homes should meet residential needs over a great part of the County. The remaining problem of providing a different type Home for those residents unsuitable for admission to these Eventide Homes has been under consideration for some time.

The Border Hospitals Board of Management has been actively demanding the removal of local authority residents in hospital premises, particularly at Drumlanrig Hospital, Hawick and this aspect has been engaging the Committee's attention.

Section 17 - Reception Centres.

The management of the Reception Centres at Jedburgh and Kelsce ceased 31st March and 30th April, 1952, respectively, following the National Assistance Board's decision to close these places in accordance with national policy. The only accommodation for the wayfarer in the County appears to be the lodging house, 6 Bake Street, Hawick, (for males only).

Earlston and Langholm are the only Centres now left in the Border area for the overnight accommodation of vagrants.

Section 21(b) - Temporary Accommodation.

There were no fire or flood emergencies. One homeless young woman was accommodated in St. Margaret's Hostel, Edinburgh, by the Guild of Service for Women.

There were the usual number of enquirers seeking emergency accommodation for various reasons.

Section 29 - Welfare Services for the Handicapped.

Blind Persons.

Under agency arrangements the Edinburgh and South-East Scotland Society for Teaching the Blind to read in their own Homes continue to attend efficiently to the welfare of the blind, providing instruction, visitation, social amenities, wireless facilities and the like through the Society's Welfare Officer - Mr. A.F. Doig.

As blind persons are discovered throughout the County by the Authority's Welfare Officers, their cases are reported to the Society for investigation and, if necessary, inclusion in the Blind Welfare Scheme.

At the end of the year there were 68 enrolled blind persons in the County. Three were employed in the Royal Blind Asylum workshop in Edinburgh and one under the Home Service Scheme.

Deaf and Dumb Persons.

The Edinburgh Deaf and Dumb Benevolent Society continued, under arrangement with the Council, to supervise the welfare of the deaf and dumb persons. This amounts to visitation twice yearly, monthly religious services (Hawick Centre), an annual social meeting, the provision of hearing aids, instruction and advice generally. The service will be developed gradually, and it is hoped that the Society will be able to provide a full-time Welfare Officer to administer to the needs of the deaf and dumb handicapped.

The number of enrolled persons in the County is 18

The Crippled Home-bound and Otherwise Handicapped Persons.

The figures for the seriously disabled at the beginning of 1952 showed:-

Mentally Handicapped	68
Physically Handicapped	119

In the latter category the majority were elderly people, many of whom were already being provided with health services, Home Helps etc. A number of cases were investigated during the year and

information collected. The work of discovering the handicapped has been proceeding but generally it remained difficult, visitation and investigation being undertaken when time and opportunity permitted.

It has been found that the more active disabled persons do avail themselves of the services provided by the Ministry of Labour under the Disabled Persons Employment Act, 1944

A noteworthy step has been the formation of a Borders Association for Mental Health founded with the ultimate object of creating local committees to help in matters of mental health

Care of the Aged

The policy of encouraging the formation of local old people's welfare committees in the County was actively pursued in 1953, in pursuance of Circular D H S. No 65/1949. Local Authorities have now begun to make a material contribution to the welfare of the elderly, by means of grants to voluntary organisations, particularly where meals and recreation have been provided. Local Old People's Welfare Committees are in effect co-ordinating committees, designed to bring together all the interested organisations and individuals, including local authority representatives, so that all the facilities may be known and the gaps revealed. Such committees co-operate with the local authority in making the needs of old people known and also provide supplementary services such as meals on wheels, home visitation, club facilities, chiropody and the like where not otherwise provided for.

The Hawick and District Old People's Welfare Committee was established in July, 1952, and made remarkable progress in its first year. The membership included representatives from 28 voluntary organisations, 4 statutory bodies, with, in addition, two individual members: and the Committee closed its first working year with a credit balance of £138. Main efforts were confined to the inauguration of a meals on wheels service which started 31st August, 1953: entertainments, home visitation, issue of wool to elderly people (occupational interests), and free bath facilities. At the end of 1953 the number of meals issued from the Hawick School Dining Centre totalled 2,256, at a cost of 9d per meal to the recipient. By then the Meals Service was self-supporting, principally through the penny-a-week contributions from workers in Hawick, and donations from many organisations.

The Kelso and District Old People's Welfare Committee was formed on 13th May, 1953, and began by initiating a scheme for home visitation.

The next step contemplated will be a public meeting in Jedburgh to consider the formation of a local committee there.

Sections 37 and 39 - Registration and Inspection of Homes

Registrations - Weens House, Bonchester, Hawick.
Inspections - One

Section 47 - Removals to suitable Premises of Persons in need of care and protection.

No compulsory removals

Section 58 - Protection of Property of Persons admitted to Hospitals and Homes

Action in one instance being a casual dead person - no relatives

Section 50 - Burial and Cremation of the Dead

Burial in one instance under Section 50
Under Part III arrangements - 1 burial

Chronic Sick - Aged.

There were a number of elderly people admitted to Drumlanrig Inch Hospital, and other chronic sick hospitals during the year through the representations of the Welfare Officers at Hawick and Kelso.

(a) Section 27 of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947
Measures taken for prevention of mental illness, care and after
care of the mentally ill and defective

Generally speaking this side remains undeveloped. In some instances Home Helps were provided at the request of the Visiting Psychiatrist, Dingleton Hospital.

One lady, a voluntary patient discharged from Dingleton Hospital had to evacuate her lodgings and she was assisted to find other private accommodation.

The setting-up of a Borders Association of Mental Health should prove beneficial once local committees are established.

(b) Lunacy (Scotland) Acts, 1857-1866 by duly Authorised Officers

	Total		
Admitted to Dingleton Hospital on			
certification	5 M	2 F	7
Admitted as Voluntary Patients	2 M	-	2
Examined but Medical Certificates not			
completed	1 M	2 F	3

(c) Mental Deficiency and Lunacy (Scotland) Acts, 1913-1940

1. Arrangements for ascertaining and supervising mental defectives

Police, Doctors, Education Authority, Probation Officer, and Children's Officer, continue to report any defectives under this heading.

Placed to Institutional care (Vol.)	1 M	1 F
-------------------------------------	-----	-----

2. Guardianship

No. of boarded-out patients at end of year

1953	6 M	4 F	-	10
(includes 1 M. adult chargeable to Berwick County)				
Over 21 years	4 M	4 F	-	8
Between 16-21 years	1 M	-	-	1
Under 16	1 M	-	-	1

3. Arrangements for carrying out the statutory duty to provide
occupation and training for defectives in the area (occupational
centres, industrial centres for adults, home teaching -
individuals or groups)

Nil. Cases notified are generally assisted to find employment either through the Ministry of Labour or by individual efforts of the Local Authority Welfare Officers.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Provision of Part III Accommodation.

	Joint User Establishments							Other L A Homes				Voluntary Homes				Grand Total			
	Drumlanrig Hospital				Inch Hospital			M	F	Ch.	Total	M	F	Ch.	Total	M	F	Ch.	Total
	M	F	Ch.	Total	M	F	Ch.												
Residents at 31st December, 1952	12	4	-	16	6	3	-	9	4	1	5	4	6	-	10	26	14	-	40
Admissions to 31st December, 1953	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	2	3	5	7	3	15	6	10	3	19
Left Institution during year	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	2	-	5	2	7	1	7	2	10
Number hospitalised.	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	1	-	2
Number re-admitted Part III	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number died therein.	2	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	2	2	1	5
Residents at 31st December, 1953	10	2	-	12	6	3	-	9	4	2	6	8	7	-	15	28	14	-	42

SCHOOL MEDICAL REPORT.

Year ending 31st July, 1953.

1. Number of children on roll at 31st July, 1953 ... 6,
2. Average attendance during year ... 5,
3. Percentage of attendance ...
4. Average school rolls:-

Senior Secondary Schools:

Hawick High ...	1067.9	Kelso High ...	82
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Junior Secondary Schools:

Denholm ...	189.6	Newcastleton ...	1
Melrose Grammar ...	273.0	Newtown St. Boswells ...	25
Morebattle ...	182.1	Jedburgh Grammar ...	65
Hawick R.C. ...	114.7		

Primary Schools:

Ancrum... ..	83.4	Newmill	
Blainslie	25.3	Oxnam... ..	
Cogsmill	21.0	Pleasants	
Crailing	49.7	Riccarton	
Eckford	18.5	Roberton	
Ednam	41.4	Roxburgh	
Glen Douglas... ..	23.4	St. Boswells	1
Hawick Burnfoot	225.9	Sandystones... ..	
Hawick Drumlanrig	262.1	Saughtree	
Hawick St. Mary's	98.4	Smailholm	
Hawick Trinity	300.9	Southdean	
Hawick Wilton	378.0	Sprouston	
Heiton... ..	16.1	Stichill	
Hobkirk	56.3	Teviothead	
Lempitlaw	21.6	Towford	
Lilliesleaf	68.8	Yetholm	
Linton... ..	14.5	St. Cuthbert's	
Makerstoun	11.4	Jedburgh St.	
Minto	19.0	John's	

The age groups of pupils taken for systematic medical inspection for the school year ended 31st July, 1953, were as follows:-

- (1) All entrants and pupils not previously subjected in school to detailed routine inspections.
- (2) Pupils born in 1945 (visual acuity and hearing only).
- (3) Pupils born in 1939.
- (4) Pupils born in 1936.

In addition to the foregoing programme, the arrangements included provision for the re-inspection of pupils found defective at previous inspections, the special examination of pupils suspected by teachers, parents, and nurses to be suffering from defects, the general supervision of the health and cleanliness of pupils through the visitation of schools, etc., by School Medical Officer and School Nurses at frequent intervals.

This work has been carried out, but it should be noted that the services of the Medical Officers have now to be shared jointly with Kirkcaldy, and to that extent a certain amount of work has had to be left undone in Roxburghshire. This report deals only with Roxburghshire, but the loss of services to Roxburghshire of the Medical Officers under this arrangement cannot be ignored in a final valuation of the year's work. Serious consideration should be paid to the appointment of another Assistant Medical Officer in the near future.

The health of the school children remains good, and there have been no large outbreaks of infectious disease in the schools.

There has been an increase in the number of cases of ringworm seen and treated. This arose from a single case, and the measures taken effectively limited the spread of the disease, but there were a number of contacts before the original case was noticed. Diagnosis was based on the use of Wood's lamp, and the Pathological Service of Edinburgh University for the identification of the causative organism.

Treatment was carried out in the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, and consisted of the application of X-rays to the head. Subsequently, the hair falls out, and later, fresh non-diseased hair grows in. This form of treatment is said to give a more rapid and complete cure than the older methods, but it does occasionally carry the possibility of permanent baldness. The consent of parents and family doctor is always obtained prior to treatment. If ringworm persists in the schools, a decision will have to be taken whether or not to exclude cases in future.

Immunisation against Diphtheria continues to be highly successful, and as a result Diphtheria is practically unknown in the County.

Primary Doses	-	609
Booster Doses	-	433
		<u>1,042</u>

Immunisation against Whooping Cough was commenced at the beginning of the school year and proved to be popular. It is offered either alone or in combination with Diphtheria Prophylactic, depending on whether or not the pupil has had Diphtheria Immunisation previously.

Whooping Cough Immunisations	-	85
Diphtheria Whooping Cough Immunisations-		287
		<u>372</u>

The results so far indicate that this form of immunisation will either totally prevent the child taking Whooping Cough, or will so modify the disease, as to reduce the later complications appreciably.

Verminous infestation is still a problem, but to a very much lesser degree than in previous years. The firm measures taken, and conscientiously applied have reduced the infestation to manageable proportions. The number of treatments given at schools for verminous conditions (87) compares very favourably with last year's total.

The ascertainment of mentally defective children forms a large part of the Medical Officers' work, and the disposal of these children remains as always a formidable task. There is no special class or special provision made for these pupils in the schools. Dr. Bailey, the Regional Consultant held 9 Clinics during the year and examined

25 cases, 2 boys and 1 girl were admitted to Gogarburn. Numerous home visits have been paid by the Medical Officers.

Attendance of parents at medical inspections was good, and is a very important factor in the School Health service.

Table I

Total number of children examined at schools:-

	Systematic Examinations	Other Systematic Examinations
(A)		
Entrants - No previous routine inspection	664	93
Second Age Group - Born 1943	518	1
Third Age Group - Born 1939	478	-
Fourth Age Group - Born 1936	48	-
	<hr/> 1708	<hr/> 94

	Other Examination
(B)	
Pupils born in 1945 (Vision and Hearing only)	403
Special cases... ..	31
Re-inspections	8
	<hr/> 442

Number of individual children inspected at Systematic examinations who were notified to parents as requiring treatment (excluding uncleanliness and dental caries):-

Entrants	259
Second Age Group	174
Third Age Group... ..	71
Fourth Age Group	3
1945 Vision and Hearing	44
	<hr/> 551

Table II. - STATISTICS OF CONDITIONS FOUND AT SYSTEMATIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Nature of Defect	Total examined at all ages	Entrants		2nd Age Group		3rd Age Group		4th Age Group		All Ages	
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
1. CLOTHING -- Unsatisfactory ...	1802	411	346	274	245	243	235	22	26	950	852
2. FOOTGEAR -- Unsatisfactory ...	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
3. UNCLEANLINESS -- (a) Head: Dirty ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nits or Vermin. .	-	4	4	1	6	1	5	-	-	6	15
(b) Body: Dirty ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Verminous ...	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
4. SKIN -- (a) Head: Ringworm...	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Impetigo...	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
Other Diseases...	-	1	3	5	2	5	2	-	-	11	7
(b) Body: Ringworm ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Impetigo...	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1

Table II. — STATISTICS OF CONDITIONS FOUND AT SYSTEMATIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS — Continued.

Nature of Defect	Total examined at all ages	Entrants		2nd Age Group		3rd Age Group		4th Age Group		All Ages	
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
(b) Body:	1802	411	346	274	245	243	235	22	26	950	852
Scabies	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases . . .	—	17	10	20	12	5	8	—	—	42	30
5. NUTRITIONAL STATE —	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2
Slightly defective	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Bad	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. MOUTH and TEETH —	—	13	10	11	12	10	5	—	—	34	27
Unhealthy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. NASO-PHARYNX —	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
(a) Nose:	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Req. Observ	—	2	2	5	—	4	5	—	—	11	7
Req. Operation . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other conditions	—	4	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	5	2
(b) Throat:	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tonsils Req. Observ	—	32	22	13	10	7	8	—	—	52	40
Tonsils Req. Oper	—	23	22	9	9	2	4	—	1	34	36
(c) Glands:	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Glands Req. Observ	—	23	20	5	2	5	2	—	—	33	24

TABLE II. - STATISTICS OF CONDITIONS FOUND AT SYSTEMATIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS - CONTINUED.

Nature of Defect	Total examined at all ages	Entrants		2nd Age Group		3rd Age Group		4th Age Group		All Ages	
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
8 EYES -	1802	411	346	274	245	243	235	22	26	950	852
(a) External Disease:											
Blepharitis ...	-	1	3	4	2	-	2	-	-	5	7
Conjunctivitis ...	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
Corneal Opacities ...	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
Strabismus ...	-	6	18	7	4	6	3	-	-	19	25
Other Diseases ...	-	4	-	3	2	2	4	-	-	9	6
(b) Visual Acuity:											
Without Glasses:	-	-	-	253	221	228	207	5	23	486	451
Good working vision	-	-	-	14	16	10	15	-	1	24	32
Fair working vision	-	-	-	2	3	3	9	-	1	5	13
Bad working vision	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
With Glasses:											
Good working vision	-	-	-	4	4	2	4	-	-	6	8
Fair working vision	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
Bad working vision	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
For refraction ...	-	2	1	15	10	8	18	-	1	25	30

Table II. - STATISTICS OF CONDITIONS FOUND AT SYSTEMATIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS - Continued.

Nature of Defect	Total examined at all ages	Entrants		2nd Age Group		3rd Age Group		4th Age Group		All Ages	
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
9. EARS -	1802	411	346	274	245	243	235	22	26	950	852
(a) Diseases:	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	3	3
Otorrhoea ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Diseases ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Hearing:	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	3	-
Grade I ...	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Grade IIA ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grade IIB ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grade III ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10. SPEECH -	-	2	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	4	2
Defective Articulation ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stammering ...	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
11. MENTAL and NERVOUS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CONDITIONS -	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	-
Backward ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dull ...	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mentally Defective	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-

Nature of Defect	Total examined at all ages	Entrants		2nd Age Group		3rd Age Group		4th Age Group		All Ages	
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
	1802	411	346	274	245	243	235	22	26	950	852
Mentally Defective (Ineducable) ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Highly Nervous or Unstable ...	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
Difficult in Behaviour ...	-	-	2	2	-	-	1	-	-	2	3
12 CIRCULATORY SYSTEM - (a) Organic Heart Disease.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Congenital ...	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	4	1
Acquired ...	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Functional Conditions ...	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
13 LUNGS -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Chronic Bronchitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Suspected Tuber- culosis ...	-	2	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	3	3
Other Diseases ..	-	12	3	5	4	1	1	-	-	18	8

Classification	Entrants		2nd Age Group		3rd Age Group		4th Age Group		Total	
	No. of Children	%	No. of Children	%	No. of Children	%	No. of Children	%	No. of Children	%
1. Children free from defects	415	54.82	306	58.96	305	63.81	34	70.84	1080	58.82
2. Children (otherwise free from defects who suffer from:- (a) Defective Vision not worse than 6/12 in the better eye with or without glasses ... (b) Oral Sepsis requiring treatment ... (c) Both (a) and (b) ...	2 17 5	0.27 2.24 0.66	23 16 -	4.43 3.08 -	23 9 -	4.81 1.88 -	3 1 -	6.25 2.08 -	51 43 5	2.83 2.39 0.28
Total ...	24	3.17	39	7.51	32	6.69	4	8.33	99	5.50
3. Children suffering from ailments (other than those mentioned in 2) from which complete recovery is anticipated within a few weeks ...	87	11.49	54	10.41	42	8.78	1	2.08	184	10.21
4. Children suffering from (or suspected to be suffering from) defects less remediable than defects specified in 2 or 3. Distinguishing cases:- (a) where complete cure or restoration of function (in the case of eye defect full correction) is considered possible (b) where improvement only is considered possible e.g. without complete restoration of function	229 2	30.25 0.27	112 8	21.58 1.54	92 7	19.25 1.46	8 1	16.67 2.08	441 18	24.47 1.00
Total ...	231	30.52	120	23.12	99	20.71	9	18.75	459	25.47
Total number of children examined ...	757	100.00	519	100.00	478	100.00	48	100.00	1802	100.00

Table IV

RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE IN THE AREA

Disability	At Ordinary Schools	At Special Schools or Classes	At No School or Institu- tion	To
1. BLIND	-	-	-	
2. PARTIALLY SIGHTED:-				
(a) Refractive errors in which the curriculum of an ordinary school would adversely affect the eye condition	-	-	-	
(b) Other conditions of the eye, e.g. cataract, ulceration, etc. which render the child unable to read ordinary school books or to see well enough to be taught in an ordinary school ...	-	-	-	
3. DEAF:-				
Grade I	1	-	-	
Grade IIA	1	-	-	
Grade IIB	-	-	-	
Grade III	-	-	-	
4. DEFECTIVE SPEECH:-				
(a) Defects of articulation requiring special educ- ational measures ...	5	-	-	
(b) Stammering requiring special educational measures... ..	1	-	-	
5. MENTALLY DEFECTIVE:-				
(Children between 5 and 16 years) -				
(a) Educable (I.Q. approx. 50-70	9	1	4	1
(b) Ineducable (I.Q. generally less than 50)	-	-	9	
6. EPILEPSY:-				
(a) Mild and occasional ...	1	-	-	
(b) Severe (suitable for care in a residential school)	-	-	-	
7. PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE:-				
(Children between 5 and 16 years) -				
(a) Non-pulmonary tubercul- osis (excluding cervical glands)	4	-	-	
(b) General Orthopaedic conditions	249	-	-	24
(c) Organic heart disease	20	-	-	2
(d) Other causes of ill- health	-	-	-	

Disability	At Ordinary Schools	At Special schools or Classes	At No School or Institu- tion	Total
MULTIPLE DEFECTS:-				
I. Mentally defective (ineducable) and physically defective (general orthopaedic conditions) ...	-	-	3	3
II. Mentally defective (ineducable) and epilepsy (mild) ...	-	-	-	-
III. Mentally defective (ineducable) and epilepsy (severe)...	-	-	-	-
IV. Mentally defective (ineducable) and blind... ..	-	-	-	-
V. Mentally defective (educable) and physically defective (general orthopaedic conditions)...	2	-	-	2
VI. Mentally defective (educable) and epilepsy (mild) ...	1	-	-	1
VII. Mentally defective (educable) and epilepsy (severe)...	-	-	-	-
VIII. Mentally defective (educable) and physically defective (other causes of ill-health)	1	-	-	1
IX. Mentally defective (educable) and deaf	-	-	-	-
X. Mentally defective (educable) and blind	-	-	-	-
XI. Other multiple defects	540	-	-	540

AVERAGE HEIGHTS AND WEIGHTS.

	Number Examined	Average			
		Age (Yrs. Mths)		Height (Ins)	Weight (Lbs.)
ENTRANTS -					
Boys	356	5	5	43.7	44.5
Girls	308	5	5	43.5	43.1
SECOND AGE-GROUP -					
Boys	274	9	5	53.0	65.7
Girls	244	9	5	52.2	65.2
THIRD AGE-GROUP -					
Boys	243	13	5	61.2	94.3
Girls	235	13	4	56.8	100.6
FOURTH AGE-GROUP -					
Boys	22	16	4	67.4	132.0
Girls	26	16	4	63.6	120.0

MEDICAL TREATMENT

(A) Minor Ailments treated at School Clinics.

1. Cuts, bruises, sprains, minor injuries ...	...	...	27
2. Diseases of the ear ...	...	...	3
3. Diseases of the eye ...	...	...	4
4. Diseases of the skin:-			
Ringworm (scalp) ...	...	...	46
Ringworm (body) ...	...	...
Scabies ...	...	...
Impetigo ...	...	...	20
Other Diseases ...	...	...	21
5. Miscellaneous ...	...	...	8
6. Treatment for Verminous Infestation ...	...	...	1
7. U.V.R. Treatments ...	...	...	3
Total...			137

(B) Defective Vision and Squint.

By arrangements with the Regional Hospital Board, Dr. Moffat acts as Ophthalmologist for the School Medical Service in the County.

Children are referred for examination at the request of the School Medical Officers or of the general practitioners.

Clinics are held at:-

Springbank Clinic, Hawick.
 Waterside Clinic, Jedburgh
 St. Dunstan's Clinic, Melrose.
 Dental Clinic, Newtown St. Boswells.
 Kelso High School.

Cases requiring operative treatment are referred to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

Twenty-nine Sessions have been held during the School year; details are as follows:-

School Children treated under Scheme:

Appointments made ...	...	...	...	36
Appointments kept ...	...	...	...	31
Glasses prescribed...	...	...	86	
Glasses satisfactory ...	...	...	51	
Treatment, including occlusion of eye	...	...	20	
Referred to R.I.E. ...	...	...	5	
No abnormality found ...	...	...	115	
No benefit from glasses ...	...	...	34	3

Pre-school children treated under Scheme:

Appointments made ...	...	...	...	...
Appointments kept ...	...	...	...	...
No treatment required ...	...	...	4	...

Defects found -

Strabismus	103
Hypermetropic Astigmatism	25
Myopic Astigmatism	17
Mixed Astigmatism... ..	15
Hypermetropia	16
Myopia	44
Conjunctivitis	7
Blepharitis... ..	10
Amblyopia	34
Iritis	1
Optic Atrophy	1
Congenital Cataract	1
Traumatic Cataract	2
	<hr/>
	276

(C) Conditions of Ear, Nose and Throat

School children who are found to be suffering from any condition affecting the Ear, Nose or Throat are referred to the E.N.T. specialist for examination, when such is considered necessary, by the School Medical Officers or at the special request of general practitioners

By arrangement with the Regional Hospital Board, Dr Birrell and Dr McCallum act as specialists, and clinics are held as detailed in the paragraph on Defective Vision

Removal of tonsils and adenoids, X-ray investigations, minor operative investigations and procedures are all carried out by Dr Birrell at Kelso Cottage Hospital and by Dr McCallum at the Sanderson Hospital, Galashiels. Cases where major operation is indicated are referred to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, or to the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh

Eight Sessions have been held during the school year; the details are as follows:-

School Children treated under Scheme

Number examined	133
Number recommended for operation	103
Number recommended for other treatment	1
Number referred to R.I.E. or R.H.S.C.	11
Number in which no action taken	18... 133
Number operated on	50

Pre-school Children treated under Scheme

Number examined	27
Number recommended for operation	22
Number recommended for other treatment	1
Number referred to R.I.E. or R.H.S.C.	1
Number in which no action taken	3... 27
Number operated on	13

(D) Orthopaedic Treatment

The scheme provides for the treatment of school children suffering from orthopaedic defects who have been recommended for treatment by the School Medical Officers or general practitioners

By arrangement with the Regional Hospital Board, Mr R. Stirling, F.R.C.S., Edinburgh, acts as consultant and clinics are held monthly at various centres

School children on active treatment register 1/8/52 ... 72
 School children on active treatment register 31/7/53 ... 75

Distribution of Cases:-

Date	Hawick	Kelso	Jedburgh	Melrose	Newcastleton	Total
1/8/52	270	182	142	97	30	72
31/7/53	283	195	143	107	30	75

Record of attendances at clinics and home treatments:-

Month	Clinic	Home
1952:		
August	57	9
September	1190	8
October	787	11
November	1065	6
December	924	12
1953:		
January	987	15
February	1809	10
March	1076	11
April	458	19
May	1002	7
June	893	12
July		50

Institutional Treatment:-

	P. M. R. Hospital
In residence 1/8/52 ...	6
Admitted... ..	35
Discharged	31
In residence 31/7/53...	9

Classification of Hospital cases:-

Bowed tibia	1
Congenital abnormality - right arm	1
Congenital dislocation of hips... ..	3
Congenital small and pronated foot	1
Congenital Talipes Equino-varus	2
Epiphysitis	4
Fractured elbow	1
Hallux Rigidus	1
Hallux Valgus	1
Hammer toes	2

Investigation: knee ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
leg ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Shler's Disease ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
teo-chondritis of knee ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
er riding fifth toe ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
rpendicular tali ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
s Cavus... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
s Planus ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
liomyelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
mi-membranosis Bursae ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
uare os calsis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
enosing Teno-vaginitis thumb ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
astic ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
ght tendo-achilles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
rious deformities ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Table V - DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT

No of children who were -

Inspected by Dental Officers -

Age	(a) Systematic Examinations	(b) Special and Emergency Cases	Total
5	455	153	608
6	606	177	783
7	466	128	594
8	561	115	676
9	509	65	574
10	541	46	587
11	499	34	533
12	402	25	427
13	136	26	162
14	219	31	250
15	167	17	184
15+	186	5	191
	4747	822	5569

	Systematic Examinations	Special and Emergency Cases
a) Found to require treatment ...	2951	803
b) Accepting treatment ...	2165	805
Actually treated by the School Dental Officers ...	2592	805
Attendances made by Children for treatment ...	4989	805
Fillings - (a) Permanent Teeth ...	1203	63
(b) Temporary Teeth ...	495	87
Extractions - (a) Permanent Teeth ...	223	49
(b) Temporary Teeth ...	2269	559
Administrations of a general anaesthetic... ..	59	17
Other operations - (a) Permanent Teeth	2159	450
(b) Temporary Teeth	2493	186
Half-days devoted to inspection...	51	--
Half-days devoted to treatment ..	692	
Known to be treated privately ...	776	

REMARKS.

Hawick etc Area - Mr C.M Urquhart Dental Officer

Number of schools inspected	10
Number of schools receiving treatment	1
Number of schools in which treatment was completed	1
Number of schools in process of treatment	
Percentage of children examined by School Dentist and found to require treatment, and who subsequently received treatment from School Dentist or privately	10
Percentage of children treated by School Dentist	5

Please note - In addition to the above some casuals from Cogsmill School were treated in Hawick

This figure is, of course, in certain respects theoretical that some parents say they are taking children for dental treatment and do not do so, but clinical examination shows that this is a small proportion

Kelso Melrose, Jedburgh, etc Area - Mrs C Grieve Dental Officer

All schools in the area were inspected with the exception of Heiton, Makerstoun, Sandystones and Ancrum

All schools in the area were visited for treatment

The position in regard to the treatment of all the country schools in the area is satisfactory. In the case of the burgh schools, however, the position is not good. The number requiring treatment and the amount of treatment required by individual children is so great that there is necessarily too great an interval between the inspection and the carrying out of treatment in a large percentage of cases.

The Orthodontic Scheme is progressing well and the results continue to be very satisfactory. 188 cases have been dealt with since the commencing of the Specialist clinics

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF SCHOOLS.

Sanitary fittings are adequate in most of the schools, and are in a clean condition. During the summer months, it would be desirable to use a plentiful supply of a good disinfectant and spray walls of the lavatories with D.D.T. or other insecticide. This is especially important in rural schools.

School Maintenance

The following information has been received from the County Architect:-

Blainslie - Electric service cable led forward to School. Drains and septic tank provided.

Cogsmill - Internal redecoration throughout school

Crailling - Internal and external mason joiner and plumber repairs after inspection of building

Denholm - Repairs to Verandah at Infant Department. Internal and external redecoration of dining centre.

Ednam - Internal redecoration throughout school

Gattonside - 15 amp power plug and electric fire

Hawick, Drumlanrig - Internal redecoration throughout school electric fires supplied.

Hawick High - Widening landings Re-wiring Housewifery Department. Domestic Science Building Installation of two warning bells. Decoration of Typists' Room, Rooms 9 and 11 and Primary 4

Teviot Lodge - Redecoration of Cookery Room Provision of book-shelves in two rooms on first floor.

Hawick, Wilton - Internal redecoration of Infant Department Internal and external mason, joiner, plumber and plaster repairs after inspection.

Hawick, St. Cuthbert's - Internal and external mason, joiner, plumber and plaster work repairs following inspection Internal redecoration throughout school.

Hobkirk - Internal redecoration throughout school

Jedburgh Grammar - Warning bell system throughout school New electric cooker in Domestic Science Room Provision of Clerical Assistant's Room and improvements to Headmaster's Room

Jedburgh, St. John's - Tarmac on approach drive to school Building retaining wall

Kelso, Abbey Row - Tarmac laid at entrance

Kelso, Infant - Aerial and four radio points installed Internal redecoration throughout school

Kelso High - Zipp blinds renewed in Room 5

Kirkton - Sundry repairs prior to re-opening of school

Linton - Internal redecoration throughout school.

Lilliesleaf - Internal redecoration throughout school. Internal redecoration of Dining Annexe

Makerstoun - Internal redecoration of classroom and porch.

Maxton - New skewers on roof. Excavating soil at back of building and removing wet rot in school

Melrose - Partition in Boys' Brigade Hut. Roofs over boys' girls' cloakrooms - asphalt renewed

Morebattle - Two new radiators installed in woodwork room. Rayburn Cooker installed in Domestic Science Room.

Newmill - Mason, joiner and plumber repairs following inspection

Newtown - Internal redecoration of school meals kitchen

Oxnam - Removal of dry rot in roof and cloakroom. Internal redecoration throughout school. Internal and external mason, joiner, plumber and plaster repairs following inspection

Pleasants - Internal and external mason, joiner, plumber, plaster repairs following inspection.

Roxburgh - Electric light installed. Internal redecoration throughout school

Sandystones - Well put into order as emergency supply. Electric pump installed.

Saughtree - Internal redecoration throughout school

Smailholm - Second-hand heating boiler from Maxton School installed

Southdean - Redecoration of two classrooms.

Stichill - Facilities for School Meals installed. Electric cable brought forward to school.

Yetholm - Installation of two drinking fountains. Internal redecoration of dining centre. Internal redecoration throughout school

MILK AND DAIRIES.

2 Samples.

DESIGNATED MILK:

This milk must comply with the requirements of the Milk (Special Designations)(Scotland) Order, 1951

.. Raw milk:

a) Certified: 18 samples were taken from 2 farms. Of these 14 were routine samples and 4 were repeat samples - 2 failed to comply.

b) Tuberculin Tested. 335 samples were taken from 45 farms, (av. 7.2 samples/farm). Of these 280 were routine samples and 55 were repeat samples. Of the routine samples, 39 (or 13.9%) failed to comply with the Order. 13 farms had no failures during the year.

c) Standard: 15 samples were taken from 2 farms; of these 9 were routine and 6 were repeat samples. Of the routine samples, 5 failed to comply.

.. Pasteurised milk

a) Honeyburn & Teviotdale: 30 samples were taken showing 8 failures

b) Hawick Co-op Society: 24 samples were taken showing 1 failure

..DESIGNATED MILK.

There is no legal standard for this milk but the samples taken are subjected to the same tests as the Tuberculin Tested milk

40 samples were taken from 7 farms. Of these farms, 5 are really able to keep to the standard, but 2 consistently produce poor quality milk

SCHOOL MILK

Schools receive Tuberculin Tested pasteurised milk from Honeyburn Teviotdale Dairy Company

22 samples were taken showing 5 failures

The number of Registered Dairies in the County was 86

ANALYSIS OF SAMPLES OF SWEET MILK

No	Month of Sampling	Results (percentages)				Butter Fat Average per cen
		Res	Fat	S N F	Ash	
1	January	12.92	4.42	8.50	0.71	3.99
2	"	12.21	3.64	8.57	0.71	
3	"	13.18	4.20	8.98	0.74	
4	"	12.93	4.00	8.93	0.74	
5	"	12.35	3.53	8.82	0.73	
6	"	12.92	4.12	8.80	0.73	
7	February	11.80	2.55	9.25	0.77	3.41
8	"	12.92	4.26	8.66	0.72	
9	March	11.25	2.85	8.40	0.70	3.35
10	"	12.29	3.34	8.95	0.74	
11	"	12.09	3.32	8.77	0.73	
12	"	12.99	3.91	9.08	0.75	
13	"	11.87	3.34	8.53	0.71	
14	"	12.06	3.29	8.77	0.73	
15	"	11.30	2.67	8.63	0.72	
16	"	11.35	2.74	8.61	0.71	
17	"	13.18	4.38	8.80	0.73	
18	"	12.56	4.00	8.56	0.71	
19	"	11.50	3.01	8.49	0.70	
20	May	11.85	3.10	8.75	0.73	3.22
21	"	11.95	3.06	8.89	0.74	
22	"	11.63	3.00	8.63	0.72	
23	"	11.52	3.19	8.33	0.69	
24	"	12.27	3.65	8.62	0.72	
25	"	11.99	3.31	8.68	0.72	
26	June	11.89	2.81	9.08	0.75	3.31
27	"	11.94	3.09	8.85	0.74	
28	"	11.71	3.05	8.66	0.72	
29	"	13.02	3.93	9.09	0.75	
30	"	12.43	3.50	8.93	0.74	
31	"	12.49	3.49	9.00	0.75	

ICE CREAM (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS.

	Premises	Vehicles
Number of Registrations granted in 1953	1	3
Number of Registrations in force at end of 1953	21	7

FOOD AND DRUGS.

54 samples were taken during the year. The articles sampled and results of analyses were as follows:-

Article	No.	Gen.
Chewing Gum	2	2
Ice Cream	11	11
Mince	1	1
Milk	31	26
Rock	1	1
Sausages	7	7
Sweets... ..	1	1

COUNTY WATER SERVICE

The rainfall at Lindean Reservoir during the year was 25.89 ins. On January 1st the level was 17.4 ft. During the first three months of the year an exceptionally dry period was experienced, only 5 inches of rain being recorded. The water level fell steadily till the lowest level for the year, 11.6 ft., was recorded on October 31st. The level at the end of December was 13.25 ft.

A serious shortage of water was threatened in the Melrose Water area, especially if 1954 proved to be a fairly dry year, so a scheme was prepared to instal a diesel pumping plant at Murder Moss to pump water through $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile of 6" piping to Lindean Reservoir.

An electric booster was installed at Eildon to supply the village. This has proved to be a satisfactory solution to the problem in this district.

A scheme to build a 200,000 gallon tank at Eildon Hall, lay 2½ ins of 9" and 6" pipe and duplicate the pump at Newstead was approved and will be completed during 1954. These works, with the completion of the pump at Newstead, will eventually be incorporated in the Regional Water Scheme.

At Denholm, work was commenced on a pumping scheme to augment the present supply. The new tank and piping will be incorporated in the Regional Water Scheme.

A new 4" pipe is to be laid at Hobkirk to improve the supply in the Bonchester district. This work will be completed in 1954.

A full report concerning the scope and cost of the Ale Water Scheme has been completed and will be presented to the Council for their consideration at an early date.

During the year, supplies to the various districts have been very well maintained. Any interruptions which did occur were due to the usual causes - obsolete systems and over-worked plant.

HOUSING

48

Site	Completed					Under Construction				Total (under construction and complete)
	Permanent Traditional	Permanent Non-Traditional	Agricultural Workers'	Aged Persons	Conversions	Permanent Traditional	Permanent Non-Traditional	Agricultural Workers'	Aged Persons	Conversions
Ancrum ...	2									2
Bowden ...	4									4
Chesters			6							6
Denholm ...						12		4	2	14
Ednam ...										4
Gattonside					1					3
Heiton ...			4		5					14
Lilliesleaf	6					6				12
Morebattle						10				10
Newcastle-										
ton ...	12			4						16
Newmill-on-										
Teviot								4		4
Newtown...		20			2		36			67
Roxburgh								4		4
St Boswells		26		12				8		38
Smalholm										8
Stichill			4							4
Town										
Yetholm							6			6
Totals	24	46	14	16	8	28	42	20	2	16
										216

Total Completed ... 108
Total under construction 108

ANNUAL REPORT - 1953.

Mr. Bell, Area Sanitary Inspector, reports:-

The conditions in regard to the sanitary aspect of the County continue to be satisfactory.

Sanitary conditions of schools, workshops, factories, and burial grounds, including amenities where burial grounds are closed.

The sanitary conditions of the schools in the area are reasonably well maintained and no occasion arose for complaint

The general sanitary condition of the various workshops and factories is reasonably satisfactory

There are no common lodging houses in the area

The burial grounds are well maintained.

Food Hygiene

Most food premises are reasonably well maintained in a clean condition but that does not mean it is unnecessary to pass legislation to encourage (or discourage) the laggards. Where human beings are behind the counter serving out the comestibles, one cannot expect perfection which one looks for and often does not get. Broadly speaking, however, there is room for improvement, and if properly and reasonably interpreted, the public should benefit, and it is up to the public to be just that shade more critical in their shopping conditions

Miscellaneous.

49 samples were taken under the Food and Drugs Act prior to an incident occurring to the writer in July which upset the balance for the rest of the year.

Examination was made of various tins of meat, fruit and jam, etc., and they were condemned owing to their condition

The sanitary conditions of the premises where foods are manufactured, prepared, etc. were reasonably satisfactory

Food Supply.

Milk.

The supply of milk has been adequate. The sampling of milk was carried out during the period under review and is referred to in the Milk Officer's Reports

Inspections were made of the two pasteurising plants in Hawickburgh - occasional lapses were noticeable and duly corrected

Dairy Byelaws.

A number of inspections of dairy premises were carried out and a generally good standard of cleanliness was observed. The production of clean milk is now more of an exact science than of the 'now and again' methods

The following is provided at the request of the Department Health for Scotland -

- (a) Number of retail purveyors of milk 14
- (b) Number of producers and wholesale dealers who do not
sell milk by retail 3
- (c) Approximate number of cows in registered premises ... 96
- (d) Number of dairies exempted from registration ... between 50
and 600 on
and two co
premises

Ice Cream

The samples taken during the first six months of the year show a satisfactory fat content but the bacteriological samples were up to the required standard except in one case. Each case will have to be handled separately and an effort made to trace out the weak points in handling the plant.

Meat

Administration of Sections 33 and 43 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897 and the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 19

HAWICK BURGHS LAUGHTERHOUSE

Class of Animals	Number of Animals			Weight (in lbs) of condemned meat and offals		
	Slaughtered	Wholly condemned	Partially condemned	MEAT		OFFALS
				Wholly	Part	
Cattle ...	1835	33	14	13056	1131	1153
Sheep ...	8063	181	30	5618	567	369
Pigs ...	758	6	23	430	390	40
Calves ...	336	23	...	895	-	7

Milk

No untoward difficulty is being experienced in the administration of the Acts and Byelaws in regard to the various dairy premises. A generous measure of co-operation is always met with in one's view and the outcome is usually satisfactory from the official point of view.

SPECIAL DRAINAGE DISTRICTS

Bowden, Midlem, Lilliesleaf, Denholm, Ancrum, St. Boswells, Newcastleton, Wilton, Dean.

The drainage of the various Special Districts continues to function satisfactorily. The work on the east sewage tank at Bowden carried out in 1952 appears to be adequate but the concrete cover has still to be laid.

The sewage tank at Denholm was pumped out and the tank at Bowden received attention.

The Sewage Works at St. Boswells are well maintained - the fermentation tanks are cleaned out regularly - a Village Officer is appointed with a combination of duties attending to this section. Disposal of the sludge probably will be a matter of difficulty and it is suggested that sludge could be more acceptable to Agriculturists were lime and straw added to it, properly mixed.

The drainage at Wilton Dean has been the subject of discussion and a survey is to be made to investigate the possibilities of laying a new sewer along the burn side to connect with the Burgh sewer.

SPECIAL SCAVENGING DISTRICTS

The collection of household refuse is carried on as formerly reported. A modern covered refuse vehicle is to be purchased by the present Contractor - to go into operation in May, 1954. This should be an advantage in a more hygienic system of collection.

Mr. Fraser, Area Sanitary Inspector, reports:-

General.

As the result of a most untimely accident, my colleague was off duty from July and it accordingly fell to me to undertake all sanitary duties in the County.

In view of the extent of the area and consequently the time necessarily taken up with travelling, it is perhaps not surprising that this arrangement did not always function as satisfactorily as I would have wished, and I think it fair to record that several times, more especially those of a routine nature, did not receive the attention they would have been afforded under normal circumstances.

During the last month of the year, however, the position was improved by the temporary appointment of an additional inspector.

On the question of staff, it can be fairly assumed that the duties of sanitary inspectors, both in rural and urban areas, will be further increased when the Food Regulations and The Housing (Repair and Rents)(Scotland) Act appear in the Statute Book, and the appointment of an additional full-time inspector may have to be considered.

Water Supplies

As in former years, a not inconsiderable amount of time was devoted to the investigation of private water supplies and to the taking of samples for chemical analysis and bacteriological examination.

In most cases, samples were taken at the request of farmers or their agents so that, if the Analysts' reports warranted, they could be furnished with a certificate signed by the County Medical Officer stating that, in his opinion, the supply was fit for general domestic purposes. This enabled the applicant to qualify for a grant from the Department of Agriculture for Scotland towards the cost of augmenting or improving an existing supply or alternatively of providing a new supply.

The following is a detail of visits made, samples taken and results obtained:-

Visits	Samples		Results					
	Chemical	Bacteriological	Chemical			Bacteriological		
			Good	Fair	Bad	Good	Fair	Bad
47	3	31	3 ^c	Nil	Nil	14	6	1

Note:- * 1 very hard

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

That the general supervision of the various drainage schemes and sewage works is considered to be of no little import may be realised from the fact that, throughout the year, 227 visits were made to instruct and supervise Special District Officers in their duties, to arrange for the desludging of septic tanks, an operation which is presently undertaken by a private contractor to discuss proposed schemes with the County's Consultant Engineers, to note the progress of schemes under construction, to investigate complaints and to remedy nuisances.

The following is a brief resume of work undertaken or envisaged in the Special Drainage Districts in the area which, under normal circumstances, comes within my supervision:-

Ednam - Minor repairs to west septic tank. Tank desludged

Gattonside - Replacement of defective heavy gauge manhole covers and frames. Extension of main 12" outfall sewer into River Tweed. It must be emphasised that as a result of this work, the rather serious nuisance condition caused by the direct discharge of crude sewage into the river was ameliorated and not abated. This can be achieved only by the provision of proper outfall works.

Heiton - Replacement of defective heavy gauge manhole covers and frames.

Morebattle - Scheme prepared for the laying of some 300 yards of 6" sewer and the construction of new sewage works.

Newstead - Scheme originally prepared for the construction of new septic tank and sludge beds reconsidered by Department of Health.

Newtown St. Boswells - First phase of comprehensive scheme approved. 650 yards of sewers, ranging in diameter from 9" to 18", to be laid. Existing sedimentation tanks regularly desludged. The tanks are quite unable to deal with the volume of sewage presently entering them and the second phase of the comprehensive scheme which includes provision for new works should not be long delayed. Boundaries of Special Drainage District extended to include the Village of Eildon.

Smailholm - New scheme involving the laying of some 1500 yards of 6" main and outfall sewer and the construction of "hop-bottomed" septic tank completed.

Town Yetholm - Modifications to sewage works including provision of movable baffle scum boards for the humus tanks and curved concrete cope on top of the 9" brickwork round the filter bed.

In addition, as the Special Districts Officer reported that he was experiencing considerable difficulty in adhering to the desludging programme suggested by the Department of Health's Engineers due to clogging of the medium in the sludge beds, it was decided, as an experiment, to replace the clinker in one of the beds with 6" of slag and chippings graded from $1\frac{1}{2}$ " to $\frac{3}{8}$ ". This new and lighter medium dealt very efficiently with the first application of sludge, a very high percentage of its liquid content draining to the bottom. With subsequent applications, however, clogging was again evident and it was decided not to extend the experiment to the remaining beds.

It would seem therefore, that the only effective way of utilising the sludge beds is to remove the sludge after each desludging operation. This means that a considerable amount of liquid has to be removed as well and, in wet weather especially, this is an extremely laborious task.

Cleansing and Refuse Disposal

Facilities for the collection and disposal of household refuse continued to be provided by private contractors and they, on the whole, fulfilled the terms of their various contracts with efficiency and tact.

Towards the end of the year a scheme was approved, for commencement, early in 1954, of a comprehensive scavenging scheme to be operated by a private contractor on, initially, a five year contract. This includes the provision by the contractor, of a refuse freighter of approved design and provides for the undernoted services:-

<i>Thrice weekly</i>	- Newtown St. Boswells and St. Boswells (One collection being for waste paper, tins, etc.)
<i>Twice weekly</i>	- Ancrum, Bowden, Denholm, Eildon, Gattonside, Lilliesleaf, Midlem and Newstead
<i>Once weekly</i>	- Crailing, Eckford, Ednam, Heiton, Maxton, Roxburgh, Smailholm, Sprouston and Stichill.

With the exception of Maxton, none of the villages for which a thrice weekly collection is envisaged has hitherto had any organised scavenging facilities.

It is to be hoped that all householders will co-operate by ensuring that their bins, which preferably should be of an approved design and covered, are placed where required for collection at the proper time.

Towards the end of the year a full-time Special Districts Officer was appointed for St. Boswells. His duties include street sweeping, the removal of waste paper and other refuse from the principal streets and paths in the village on Sunday mornings, the emptying of street gullies, the cleansing of the recently erected public conveniences, the sweeping of the bus shelter, grass cutting in open places which are the responsibility of the County Council and the maintenance of the sewage works. There the increased efficiency of the staff and the absence of nuisance conditions which are a direct result of regular and efficient maintenance have, in themselves, justified the appointment.

Offensive Trades

The single offensive trade in the area supervised by me continued to be well conducted and did not give rise to any nuisance. The small knackereries owned by two of the Border Hunts and situated in the area were normally supervised by my colleague were inspected in company with the Hygiene Officer of the Department of Health. Conditions in both instances were found to be reasonably satisfactory.

Factories and Workshops

At the end of the year there were 28 registered factories in the area, of which 21 were mechanical and 7 non-mechanical. 14 visits were made to these premises, in course of which a number of minor defects were noted. These were rectified however without having to take formal action.

Schools

The general cleanliness of the classrooms and lavatories at various schools visited was found to be satisfactory.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses in my area.

Burial Grounds

These continued to be well conducted.

Infectious Diseases

The incidence of notifiable diseases remained low. The following visits of enquiry were made: -

Scarlet Fever

15

Tuberculosis.

1

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949

The Rodent Operator and his staff were fully occupied surveying premises and laying baits. All refuse dumps were regularly treated and, as a result, few complaints were registered.

Miscellaneous Nuisances

In the ever widening field of environmental hygiene which is a particular province of the Sanitary Inspector, one of the prime duties must always remain the investigation and abatement of "Nuisances" as defined in the Public Health (Scotland) Act 1897. In this connection, 63 visits and re-visits were made and at the end of the year only one nuisance remained to be dealt with.

Food Supply

Milk

Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Act 1914.

One application was received in the course of the year in respect of the registration of an additional byre on a farm already registered in terms of Section 7 of the above Act and registration in respect of three premises were cancelled. The dairyman concerned in each case having stopped milk production.

(Special Designations)(Scotland) Order, 1951.

Licences to use the special designation 'Tuberculin Tested' held by two of the three producers referred to in the preceding paragraph were withdrawn and the number of designated licences held at 31st December was as follows:-

<i>Producers.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Producer/Retailers.</i>
Certified	Nil	Nil
Tuberculin Tested	17	2
Standard	Nil	Nil
Pasteurised	Nil	Nil

<i>Producers' Licences.</i>	<i>No. of Licences (Holders).</i>
Certified	2
Tuberculin Tested	5
Standard	Nil
Pasteurised	2

<i>Producers' Supplementary Licences.</i>	
Certified	2
Tuberculin Tested	2
Standard	1 (issued for period to 30/9/54).
Pasteurised	2

No licences were suspended or revoked. As a result, however, of unsatisfactory reports received on a number of samples of pasteurised milk taken during the period May to July, two representatives of a Company holding a Pasteuriser's Licence appeared before a specially convened meeting of the appropriate Committee and, after a lengthy discussion, were warned that unless there was a definite and immediate improvement, the Local Authority would have no alternative but to consider the revocation of the Company's Pasteuriser's Licence. Up to the end of the year under review, however, reports on samples obtained did not warrant such action being taken.

Conditions under which designated milk is produced continue to be reasonably good and producers, generally, are to be complimented for their efforts to maintain their premises and their production methods at as high a level as possible. The following alterations have been carried out during the year:-

New Milk Rooms and Dairy Sculleries	3
(replacing old, unsatisfactory premises)	
Improvements to existing Milk Room and Dairy Scullery ...	1
Improved access from byres to Milk Room and Dairy Scullery ...	1
Increased byre accommodation	2

No producer in the area supervised by me holds a 'Standard' Licence but in view of the fact that, after 30th September 1954, 'Standard' will cease to be a special designation and 'Certified' and 'Tuberculin Tested' licences will be granted or renewed only if the holder is attested persons holding such licences should take immediate steps to upgrade their premises and have the animals in their herds submitted to the required tuberculin test in order to qualify for a 'Tuberculin Tested' licence before the date stated above.

The discontinuance of a 'Standard' licence means the loss of premium of 1/4d per gallon (1d on category sales).

Milk in Schools Scheme.

Continued to operate satisfactorily, all milk being Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised).

Non-Designated Milk.

In the course of the year the number of producers who do hold designated licences was reduced to three and of these, two likely to cease milk production in 1954. The remaining producer has been in business for many years, also retails milk in one of small burghs and his attention has been drawn to the fact that there are indications that the Minister of Food will declare his intent of specifying all the burghs in the County within the next two months or so and that, when this happens, all milk sold therein must be a specially designated milk (i.e.) Certified, Tuberculin Test Pasteurised or Sterilised. The producer-retailer, however, while appreciating the general position has not yet stated what he proposes to do in the matter, but it is not at all unlikely that he will endeavour to bring his premises up to the standard prescribed for production of 'T.T.' milk.

Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Order, 1934.

Whilst the number of producers failing to seal their cans was not so high as formerly, there are still some offenders in this respect. It is hoped, however, that they will gradually fall in line.

The following is provided at the request of the Department of Health:-

(a) The number of retail purveyors of milk	1
(b) The number of producers and wholesale dealers who do not sell milk by retail	2
(c) The approximate average number of cows in registered premises	2
(d) The approximate number of dairies exempted from registration	35
(e) The approximate average number of cows in premises exempted from registration	

Ice Cream (Scotland) Regulations, 1948.

Conditions under which ice cream was manufactured, stored and sold remained as for last year and no further applications were received for the registration of new premises. The sale of pre-packed ice cream, however, continued to expand. Unfortunately, the close supervision which it was intended to extend to manufacturing premises especially was not possible following the death of my colleague and his resultant absence from duty, and only 21 visits, all were possible, in the course of which 25 samples were taken, of which 8 were submitted for chemical analyses and 17 for bacteriological examination with the following results:-

<i>Sample No.</i>	<i>Analyst's Report</i>	<i>Result</i>
1	Fat 5.7%	Genuine
2	Fat 3.84%	Deficient in Fat by 1.16%.
3	Fat 5.94%	Genuine
4	Fat 3.90%	Deficient in Fat by 1.10%
5	Fat 8.06%	Genuine.
6	Fat 3.82%	Deficient in Fat by 1.18%
7	Fat 5.89%	Genuine.
8	Fat 6.50%	Genuine.

Bacteriological Examination:

<i>Sample No.</i>	<i>Analyst's Report.</i>	<i>Result.</i>
9	Viable Bacteria per c. c. at 37° C - uncountable B coli present 0.01 c c. (+++)	Unsatisfactory.
10	Viable Bacteria per c. c. at 37° C. - 25,000 B. coli present 0.01 c. c. (+++)	Unsatisfactory.
11	Viable Bacteria per c. c. at 37° C. - 3,000 B. coli present 0.01 c. c. (+ --)	Satisfactory.
12	Viable Bacteria per c. c. at 37° C. - uncountable B. coli present 0.01 c. c. (+++)	Unsatisfactory
13	Viable Bacteria per c. c. at 37° C. - 11,000 B. coli present 0.01 c. c. (---)	Satisfactory.
14	Viable Bacteria per c. c. at 37° C. - 63,000 B coli present 0.01 c. c. (+++)	Unsatisfactory
15	Viable Bacteria per c. c. at 37° C - 6,000 B. coli present 0.01 c. c. (+++)	Unsatisfactory
16	Viable Bacteria per c. c. at 37° C. - uncountable B. coli present 0.01 c. c. (+++)	Unsatisfactory.
17	Viable Bacteria per c. c. at 37° C. - uncountable B coli present 0.01 c c (+++)	Unsatisfactory
18	Viable Bacteria per c. c. at 37° C - 1,000 B coli present 0.01 c c (+++)	Unsatisfactory

<i>Sample No.</i>	<i>Analyst's Report</i>	<i>Result</i>
19	Viable Bacteria per c. c. at 37° C. - Uncountable B. coli present 0.01 c c (++)	Unsatisfactory
20	Viable Bacteria per c c at 37° C. = 20,000 B coli present 0.01 c c (+++)	Unsatisfactory
21	Viable Bacteria per c c at 37° C. = 6,000 B coli present 0.01 c c (---)	Satisfactory
22	Viable Bacteria per c c at 37° C. = 200,000 B coli present 0.01 c c (+++)	Unsatisfactory
23	Viable Bacteria per c. c. at 37° C. - Uncountable B coli present 0.01 c. c. (+++)	Unsatisfactory
24	Viable Bacteria per c c at 37° C. - Uncountable B. coli present 0.01 c c. (+++)	Unsatisfactory
25	Viable Bacteria per c c at 37° C. = 87,000 B coli present 0.01 c c (+++)	Unsatisfactory

Where an unsatisfactory result was obtained the manufacturer concerned was contacted and the necessity for improved method of manufacture and handling of the product impressed upon him.

Food Premises

During the year little was done by way of improving the general standard of food premises, presumably because the owners are waiting to see the full implications of the new Food Regulations which are expected will come into operation early in 1955.

Quite a number of public bars are now equipped with hot water washing and sterilising apparatus of approved design and it is hoped that before long this equipment will form part of the standard fittings in every public house.

and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.

The undernoted samples were taken:—

Commodity	No. of Samples Taken	Test or Official	Result
Net Milk ...	72	Test	67 samples Genuine 5 samples not Genuine
...sages ...	10	22	Genuine
...t Cakes ...	3	22	21
...ble Cream	1	22	22
...thetic Cream	1	22	22

Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897 - Section 43.

The undernoted food was seized and disposed of as being unfit for consumption:—

Boneless Ham - 6½ lbs
Stewed Steak - 18 lbs

Public Health (Preservatives, etc. in Food)(Scotland) Regulations 195-53.

Labelling of Food Orders.

No contravention of the above Regulations and Orders was noted during the year.

Housing.

A great deal of time was again devoted to the various duties which come under the above heading and in all 256 visits were made.

Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950 - Section 9.

Notices were served in respect of 8 houses and, in every case, undertakings Not to Re-let' were subsequently accepted.

Housing (Scotland) Act 1950 - Part VII.

The undernoted applications for grants towards the cost of moving or converting existing dwellings were approved:—

Improvements No.	Number of Houses.	Approved Cost.	Amount of Grant.
36	74	£19,569 14 8	£9,599 16 6
Conversions.	Number of Houses.	Approved Cost.	Amount of Grant.
6	7	£5,240 11 5	£2,503 16 4

No formal applications for grant were finally turned down, though, in one instance, after considering a preliminary enquiry for grant the appropriate Committee agreed to recommend that the applicant be advised that they did not consider his proposals sufficiently comprehensive to warrant favourable consideration for the purposes.

On the whole, however, the number of enquiries and applications under this part of the Act remained low and it is suggested this is due, primarily, to the fact that for an application to be entertained without the special consent of the Secretary of State, the maximum permitted expenditure on works of improvement must not exceed £800. With building costs at their present level it is quite impossible for a prospective applicant to comply with this provision and at the same time produce a scheme which meets with the approval of the Local Authority. There appears, therefore, to be an urgent need for the present maximum figure to be extended. Only by doing this can the intended benefits of the scheme be fully utilized.

It is further suggested that it might be expedient now to consider extending the facilities already available under the scheme for assisting the replacement of unsatisfactory houses occupied by agricultural workers and others, a grant of £240 for a new house of three apartments and a grant of £300 for a new house of more than three apartments, to privately owned dwellings. This might prove an incentive to a number of persons who might otherwise be unable to do so to build their own houses, thereby possibly reducing the number of houses which the Local Authority may have to provide.

Building Byelaws

45 applications for permission to alter dwellings were approved under the Council's Building Byelaws Scheme. This compares with 38 applications dealt with in the preceding year. In addition 11 houses for private ownership were either completed or in progress.

Drain Tests

On 49 occasions tests were successfully applied to various lengths of house drains.

Certificates of Fitness for Occupation

7 certificates of fitness for occupation were issued in respect of new houses or buildings altered to provide additional accommodation.

BURGH OF HAWICK

Mr Bee, Burgh Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector reports -

Water Supply

The rainfall in Hawick which is recorded by a gauge situated at Wilton Park was 29.09 inches which was 1.34 inches less than 1952 and 4.43 inches below the average for the years 1930-1953.

The rainfall recorded at Dodburn Filters during 1953 was 41.1 inches. This was the first complete year during which such readings were taken, the rain gauge having been installed last year with a view to compiling records of the annual rainfall which takes place over the water sheds of the catchment areas.

During the year there was an abundance of water and except during a short period in July an overflow was recorded at Acrekiln Reservoir. The average consumption in the distribution area was 71 gallons per head per day, which was a reduction on the 1952 figure of 71 gallons per head per day.

A further number of industrial supplies in the Burgh were added during the year, the number of meters now being 196. The consumption of water registered by meter in non-domestic premises was 14,724,000 gallons. This figure represents an increase of 14,724,000 gallons over the 1952 figure for water supplied by meter. A considerable number of industrial premises are still only partially supplied with water through a meter, and it is the intention during next year to install approximately an additional 40 meters, so that gradually the quantity of water supplied, other than for domestic purposes, will be by meter.

Three pressure reducing valves and one waste water meter were installed within the Burgh distribution system during the year. All houses served from the water mains running along the following streets now receive the water supply at a constant pressure of 150 ft. head:- High Street (north side only), Oliver Crescent, Croft Terrace, Teviot Crescent, Teviot Road, Bridge Street (north side only), Dovecote Street, Dovecote Street, Laidlaw Terrace, Duke Street, Earl Street, Trinity Street, Earl Street, Arthur Street, Noble Street, Mansfield Road, Commercial Road, Dovemount Place, Bath Street. This was achieved by the fitting of two 6" pressure reducing valves, one at the junction of Commercial Road and Albert Road, and the other at the Tower Knowe. The other pressure reducing valve was inserted in Island Road at its junction with Fenwick Park, and this valve gives a similar reduction in pressure to the Weensland district east of Fenwick Park. Previously, the night pressure in these areas was less than 240 ft. head, and the reduction should do much to reduce wear and tear on water fittings, as well as prevent excessive

A further 200 Council houses were occupied in the Burnfoot housing area and no difficulty has been experienced in providing an adequate supply of water at a suitable pressure to these houses, some of which are on the highest part of the Scheme, only slightly over 100 ft. below the level of the supply tank at Crumhaughhill. The usual routine repairs and maintenance work was carried out to mains and service pipes within the Burgh:-

New connections and replacements	39
Burst service pipes repaired	43
Connections rewasher	12
Burst mains repaired	4
New sluice valves installed... ..	3
New scour valve installed	1
Sluice valves re-packed	11
Fire hydrants renewed... ..	3
Fire hydrants rewasher	8
Service meters installed and replaced	18
District meters installed	1
Pressure reducing valves installed	3
Additional new mains laid (outwith new housing areas)	50 yds.
6" Meter removed from Acreknowe main and installed on Dodburn main	1

One additional house outwith the Burgh was connected to the main supply during the year.

Routine inspections took place in connection with defective pipes or fittings during the year and these resulted in the issue of the usual Waste Water Notices to proprietors concerned.-

Defects - Stopcock	1
W.C. Cisterns	32
Taps and Ballcocks	6
Piping	13
Frost Cocks	1
Drain Cocks	2

In the housing developments at Burnfoot a further 600 lin. of 4" cast iron distribution main were laid. This completes layout of the sites so far acquired by the Town Council. Further preparation work is due to commence at an early date and it is expected that within the next year a start will be made with laying of a further 2,000 yards of water main which will complete distribution system in this area.

During the year forty-four samples of the Burgh water supply were taken, thirteen for chemical and thirty-one for bacteriological examination. Ten of the samples which were taken for bacteriological examination proved unsatisfactory, but further samples taken from same sources proved satisfactory after extensive scouring of water mains in the district affected.

During the month of June, numerous complaints were received regarding taste and smell from the water supply coming from Acreknowe Reservoir. The first complaint arose in the Buccleuch Street area on Thursday, 4th June. Samples were taken that day for analysis and additional scouring work was carried out. Further complaints arose on Wednesday, 10th June, from Lynnwood Road and Union Street and receipt of these complaints, in addition to further scouring measures, the screens at Acreknowe Reservoir were cleaned although they were found to be in a reasonable state having been cleaned some ten days previously. On Thursday, 11th June, the taste in the water was still present in Union Street and further complaints were received from the north side of the High Street where the water was clear and of good appearance but had a definite taste and smell. Further samples were taken that day and sent to the Public Analyst in addition to further scouring measures being carried out. The taste was still apparent on Thursday, 12th June, but by Monday, 15th June, the taste was no longer evident.

The analyses of the samples taken showed no indication of cause of the complaints, and reports from the Public Analyst indicated the water as 'quite free from any indication of contamination'.

There was no apparent reason for the taste arising in the water nor for the disappearance of the taste on 15th June. No similar taste or complaints were received from areas served from a filter supply from the Crumhaughhill tank.

Drainage System and Sewage Disposal.

Normal maintenance work was carried out on the system during the year, and several stretches of sewer subjected to dragging operations. No excessive rainfall occurred and the period was completely free from flooding.

The extension and alterations to the Sewage Works was structurally completed during the year, but after lengthy running, the plant was not found to operate satisfactorily. The Town Council have been in consultation with the Department of Health on this matter, and re-organization of the plant is impending, no further report in connection would be appropriate at present.

Cleansing and Scavenging

Controlled tipping at the Burnfoot area has now been completed. The area is being allowed to finally settle before being levelled with top soil to provide a Playing Field for this new housing area.

The Town Council agreed to a request by the Hawick Rugby Football Club that they might be allowed to acquire additional ground between the existing terracing at Mansfield Park, and that the area of this ground which was lower than the existing terracing be built up by controlled tipping to form additional terracing, and increase their storage capacity. A start with this work was made in August, and the refuse of the household refuse has been tipped there since then. This work is being laid in approximately 5 ft. layers, and on top of each successive layer along the boundary of the field a 5 ft. high wall of excavated material is placed to retain the refuse and form the surface of the terracing. This new tip is very central, being only a mile from the centre of the town, and it is estimated that the resultant saving in petrol for the cleansing wagons alone amounts to between £300 and £350 per year, apart from the hidden saving in wear and tear to the vehicles, which are now able to run fully loaded to and from the lower part of the town. The running of this tip without licence has only been possible by the use of a small bulldozer and a tipper which is able to consolidate the refuse and carry out all the grading work required. Its use has also prevented any infestation of the tipped refuse by rats.

The market for the sale of waste paper ceased during the month of May, 1952, but early this year the paper mills were again able to take loads of baled waste paper, and the weekly special collections of paper from shops and industrial premises, which previously had to be returned, was baled and marketed. The initial price received for waste paper was low, but towards the end of the year the price improved, and should this remain stable, there is every prospect that in the coming year the amount noted below from the sale of waste paper should be considerably increased.

	1953					
	T	C	Q	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	43	7	-	218	14	-
Bottles	11	17	-	23	14	-
Tins	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scrap Metal	18	14	2	97	16	3
	73	18	2	£340	4	3

The total amount of refuse collected and dealt with during the year amounted to approximately 6,000 tons. This showed no appreciable increase on the quantities collected last year, but the area of collection extended considerably with the additional 200 houses provided in the Burnfoot housing area.

Nuisances

One intimation of Nuisance was served under Section 19 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897. This was attended to without further steps being taken in the matter. Potential nuisances consist mostly of choked drains were remedied on approach being made to the proprietors concerned, and no official notices were served in this section.

Offensive Trades

No changes occurred in the three skimmers' and hidefact premises in the Burgh, and these trades including the gut and t. cleaning at the Slaughterhouse were carried out without complaint

Public Slaughterhouse

The Public Slaughterhouse continued to be kept in a reasonable and tidy condition. The Manager's house which is situated at Slaughterhouse, was vacated during the year and conversions carried out which enable the premises to be brought into use as messing toilet accommodation for the operatives. This alteration included installation of shower facilities with hot and cold water.

Repairs which had been recommended by a Medical Officer of the Department of Health were carried out to the walls of the Kill Hall, and on the occupation of the new messing accommodation a scheme was made with the alterations necessary to provide a new Trip separated entirely from the existing Pig Killing Booth. Further improvements, including the provision of additional meat handling equipment, were proposed by the Ministry of Food, but these have been left in abeyance pending the central Government's decision regarding the changes proposed to take place in relation to the administration of Slaughterhouses generally.

It is to be hoped that in any re-organization which takes place the existing methods of distributing meat to butchers' shops will be considerably improved, that the use of open lorries containing fresh meat covered with loose covers will be discontinued, and that the use of suitable vehicles for distribution will be insisted upon.

Undernoted is a list of Killings and Meat dealt with during the year:-

	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Calves	To
January	136	700	11	30	8
February... ..	109	442	7	35	5
March	136	438	64	50	6
April	171	414	87	25	6
May	169	203	87	32	4
June	85	551	37	13	6
July	102	520	58	6	6
August	218	953	72	24	12
September	261	994	67	41	13
October	180	1174	72	35	14
November... ..	114	982	91	25	12
December... ..	154	692	105	20	9
Total... ..	1835	8063	758	336	109

Ox Tripes cleaned	946
Sheep Paunches cleaned	4004
No. of Carcases wholly condemned	243 - 19.99
No. of Carcases partially condemned	67 - 2.00
Total amount of Offal condemned... ..	15.7
Beef Carcases sent to cold store (affected with Cysticercus Bovis)	17

Inspection of Food.

Sixty-two visits were made to shop premises during the year when following quantities of unsound food were condemned:-

	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
1071 tins of various foods	11	2	19
Miscellaneous meat	1		21
Butter		1	25½
Sultana Raisins... ..		1	2
Total	13	2	11½

The above quantities show an increase of 2 cwts. 2 qrs. 12 lbs the previous year.

Houses let in Lodgings.

There is only one house let in lodgings in the Burgh and though it is capable of accommodating eighteen lodgers it is rarely to capacity. The house is kept in a clean condition and there been no complaints received during the year.

Burial Grounds.

The Burial Grounds are well looked after and no trouble has been experienced during the year. Further work was carried out in the loved expansion at Wilton Cemetery to allow a further number of s being made available.

The number of interments carried out during 1953 was as follows:-

LOGATE CEMETERY	Burghal	82	
	Parochial	34	
	Heritors... ..	1	
	Wilson Presentation	<u>31</u>	148
LTON CEMETERY	Burghal	63	
	Parochial	7	
	Landward... ..	<u>8</u>	78
CUTHBERT'S CHURCHYARD	... ..		7
Total			<u>233</u>

Factories and Workshops.

During the year eighty-eight inspections were made, during which defects were noted and intimation made to the proprietors concerned. The defects involved lack of cleanliness and sanitary conveniences. Three defects were remedied by the end of the year, two still being outstanding.

The returns made under Sections 110 and 111 of the Factories Act 1937 showed the number of outworkers to be 251 which is an increase of 39 over the previous year.

Housing.

During the year the record number of 208 permanent houses occupied. These consisted in the main of Weir Non-Traditional houses built by the Town Council, and Dunedin Non-Traditional houses built by the Scottish Special Housing Association. Previously the highest number of houses occupied in one year was 168 in 1951. Details of houses occupied which included one built by private enterprise are undernoted:—

Table showing details of Houses completed in 1953

4-aprt.	houses from Town Council 2nd Development ...	...	14
3-aprt.	houses from Town Council 2nd Development ...	...	11
4-aprt.	houses from Town Council North-West Section Development 1 ...	...	17
3-aprt.	houses from Town Council North-West Section Development 1 ...	...	14
4-aprt.	houses from Town Council North-West Section Development 3 ...	...	5
3-aprt.	houses from Town Council North-West Section Development 3 ...	...	5
4-aprt.	Non-Traditional Weir Houses (Burnfoot) ...	...	34
3-aprt.	Non-Traditional Weir Houses (Burnfoot) ...	...	18
4-aprt.	Dunedin houses from S.S.H.A. ...	...	39
3-aprt.	Dunedin houses from S.S.H.A. ...	...	41
3-aprt.	houses at 12 Bright Street ...	...	...
3-aprt.	houses at 22 Gladstone Street...	...	...
Private enterprise houses	...	...	...

The undernoted table shows the total number of houses occupied in the post war programme:—

Year	Temporary	Permanent Traditional	Permanent Non-Traditional	T
1946	70	—	—	
1947	89	30	—	
1948	8	29	30 (Cruden)	
1949	—	32	22 (Whitson-Fairhurst)	
1950	—	36 (S.S.H.A.)	18 (Whitson-Fairhurst)	
1951	—	31	10 (Whitson-Fairhurst)	
1952	—	26 (S.S.H.A.)	60 Weir	
1953	—	61		
		34 (S.S.H.A.)		
		3 (21 Loan)		
		44		
		4 (S.S.H.A.)		
		3 (Commercial Road)		
		66	52 Weirs	
		9 (Bright Street Gladstone Street)	80 (Dunedin S.S.H.A.)	
	167	408	286	

It is interesting to note that during the year the total number of houses built since 1945 exceeded the number of houses built between the two world wars over the period from 1920 to 1939 which totalled 807 houses

The large number of houses occupied in 1953 considerably reduced the number of houses under construction. At the commencement of the year 209 houses were under construction, and on 31st December, 1953, these houses were awaiting completion

The Town Council have let contracts for a further 63 houses, 16 of which are outwith Burnfoot housing area. The building of these 63 will be commenced during the coming year, and as 24 are of the Weir Traditional type, it can be anticipated that this 24 will be completed in 1954. The total number of houses occupied in the housing development area at Burnfoot rose from 368 to 562 during the year. The population in the area is now well over 2,000.

The site preparation work in the areas already acquired by the Council at Burnfoot has now been completed and there are now approximately 40 house sites remaining to be built on, after the commencement of work on current building Contracts. The Town Council therefore acquired a further twelve acres in the north-east corner of the scheme, and it is anticipated that the site preparation there will be commenced early next year.

1,342 inspections of house property in the Burgh were made during the year. Reports on the constructional condition of these properties and on the living conditions of the tenants were submitted for consideration by the Housing Committee. In the Annual Report for 1953 the list of applications on the housing list at the end of that year showed the number of families as 418. In spite of the large number of houses occupied during 1953, however, the number of families at present on the waiting list has increased to 436. The reason for this increase is that during 1953 a considerable number of applications were made. These applications resulted in 210 families being added to the list of those living in unfit, sub-standard or overcrowded houses, and 117 families were added to the list of families without any houses of their own.

Included in the list of families without houses of their own are 55 who have Hawick connections, but who are at present, of necessity, living outwith the Burgh. 31 of these families have been added to the list within the past year.

Families living in property subject to Demolition or Eviction Orders	51
Families living in unfit, sub-standard or excessively overcrowded houses	152
Families with no houses of their own-	
Families of 2 persons... ..	82
Families of 3 or more persons	<u>144</u>
	233
Total	<u>436</u>

The undernoted table shows the total number of families re-let during the year, resulting from the letting of 207 new Local Authority houses, the letting of Local Authority houses which were vacated, and by the voluntary decanting of tenants in the Town Council's various Housing Schemes:-

No. of families decanted from Town Council houses to larger houses, mainly due to overcrowding .. ...	...
No. of families re-housed from properties subject to Closing or Demolition Orders and houses closed ... ..	...
No. of families housed who had no house of their own ... ..	...
No. of families re-housed from sub-standard and/or overcrowded houses.. ... ..	...
Total ... ..	...
Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950 Improvement Grants	

Three Improvement Grants under the Housing (Scotland) Act were made in connection with house property during the year. amounts of Grants approved totalled £652 10/-. The work carried under Grant involved the reconstruction of three house properties one of which two small houses were converted into one 4-apart house, and in another case the work carried out resulted in provision of an additional flat

Seven Major Warrants and Thirty Minor Warrants were granted the Dean of Guild Court during the year in connection with erection and improvement of house property

These Warrants included the erection of 6 new houses for Police Board, the conversions of large house properties which result in the provision of 3 additional houses, the conversion in two cases of 2 small houses into 1 house, and improved sanitary and scull accommodation in twenty-seven other cases

The Pet Animals Act, 1951

One new Certificate was granted under the above Act during the year, the number of registered premises now being four. These premises were inspected and conditions found to be satisfactory.

BURGH OF KELSO

Mr. Neil, Burgh Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, reports:-

Water Supply.

Throughout the past year the supply of water from Heatherho the town has been satisfactorily maintained at all times, though without constant supervision and maintenance. The reservoir remains full, but the old problem of encrustation in the trunk main reduces the flow into the storage tanks from 360,000 gallons per 24 hours to the present 318,000 gallons per 24 hours, and should the reduction continue at the same rate, then in another year's time the situation will be serious. I cannot emphasise too strongly that the time has come for positive action to improve the supply - by the means of laying a new and larger trunk main from the Reservoir and installation of mechanical filtration. Under present conditions increasing post-war housing development is throwing an added burden on the supply and therefore it would be unwise to continue building houses without first carrying out the foregoing improvements.

I am pleased to report that the quality of the water has greatly improved and the flock which appeared in aerated waters manufactured by the Heatherhope supply completely disappeared. In my opinion the improvement is the result of cleaning and regular scouring out of the reservoir. Two samples were taken for bacteriological analysis and the result was satisfactory.

During the year all the ironwork at the reservoir was scraped, painted and is in good condition. The concrete steps of the low spillway are cracking badly and it is hoped to have these repaired during the coming spring.

The chlorination and lime dosing plants functioned continuously throughout the year and received regular maintenance. The tank dosing the lime is perforated at the base and this will have to be repaired; otherwise both plants are satisfactory.

The storage tanks at Softlaw were emptied and cleaned and on examination were found to be in good condition. The superficial cracking of the concrete on the exterior reported last year has now been repaired.

Another somewhat disturbing feature of the supply is the large number of old distribution mains in the Burgh which are heavily rusted. However, I am pleased to say that a programme of renewal, spread over a period of years and starting next year, has been agreed. It is regrettable that this work was not undertaken some years ago.

A new 4" x 4" branch pipe was inserted on the 4" main in Well Brae at the junction with the Golf Course Road, and some 95 yards of 4" Spun Iron concrete-lined water main was laid along the Golf Course Road to feed the new housing development at Abbotseat. 480 yards of 4" asbestos cement pipes were laid to service the same. A new 3" asbestos cement main was connected to the existing 6" main in Edinburgh Road and laid to service the Queen's Home at Leith.

Two new water connections were made to the trunk main to service New Farm Cottages, and 31 new connections were made to mains in the Burgh.

The repacking of valves was carried out during the year and so approximately 90% have been completed.

The average daily consumption per head of the population for all uses was 64.5 gallons, a slight increase on last year. Every effort was made by the staff of the Water Department to control leakage and this included intensive night and day inspections, but the staff available and the increase in housing repairs, notwithstanding, time can be devoted to this important work.

One burst occurred on the trunk main at Grubbit Bridge and this was effectively repaired without interruption to the supply.

During the year the number of defects dealt with by the Water Department were:-

Burst Services ...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Burst 4" Main ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Burst Trunk Main ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ballcocks Re-washed...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Valves Re-washed	...	...	...	...	...	31
Taps Re-washed	...	...	...	...	...	169
Taps Renewed ...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Ballcocks Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	2
W.C. Cisterns Renewed...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Stopcocks Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1

344

Drainage

The existing sewerage system has functioned fairly satisfactorily throughout the year although two minor chokages did occur on sewers but these were soon cleared, the cause in each case being a piece of wood. There are, however, far too many chokes occurring in municipal house drains and tenants should exercise greater care in this direction.

The policy of improving the existing sewerage system is being implemented by constructing new manholes, and four are to be completed during the present financial year. Old solid type manhole covers which could not be opened were replaced with new ones of the hinged type.

A new sewer was laid servicing the Abbotseat Housing Site, this is connected by a 15" pipe into the manhole at the junction of Inch Road with Edenside Road.

All new house drains laid during the year were inspected and subjected to smoke testing.

Sewage Disposal

Both screening plants were completely overhauled during the year and with constant maintenance are working satisfactorily.

Only one septic tank is maintained by the local authority and was cleaned out at regular intervals and gave no trouble.

Cleansing

The twice weekly collection of household and shop refuse replaced the daily collection at the beginning of the year and it is pleased to say that with the co-operation of the householders, shopkeepers and business premises, it has worked most satisfactorily. Saving of manpower in this connection has allowed more time to be spent on other important work.

Special weekly collections of waste paper, scrap metals, and bottles continued throughout the year, and these collections have proved a valuable source of revenue. Since the return of the waste paper market, an average of 9 tons realising £46 has been collected and disposed of each month. This is remarkable for a town of just over 4,000 of a population, and I would like here to pay tribute firstly to the householders, shopkeepers and business premises for their excellent co-operation, and secondly to my staff for their efforts in rapid collection and disposal.

A special scrap metal week was held in September sponsored by the National Scrap Campaign for Scotland when 3 tons 17 cwt were collected.

A special collection of garden refuse from householders, one day per week for six weeks in both spring and autumn, was carried out and proved satisfactory.

Due to the new housing development, the cleansing service has been extended to Abbotseat and Croft Road.

The disposal of refuse continues by controlled tipping at Quarry, some 2½ miles out of Kelso, where a full-time attendant is employed. As reported last year, the tipping space is rapidly filling up and it is essential that ground for a new tip be earmarked at the earliest opportunity.

The quantity of household refuse and salvage collected and used of during the year amounted to 1,336 tons made up as follows:-

Salvage	108 tons.
Household Refuse	1,228 tons.

Street Cleansing

The street cleansing service in the Burgh now extends to some 11 miles of roadway, seven of which are cleansed on behalf of the Town Council. In November this year, the Town Council took over the cleansing of 218 road gullies on the classified roads belonging to the Town Council at 10/- per gully per annum. This has functioned most satisfactorily.

The street litter problem is still with us, and despite the provision of seven extra litter receptacles during the year and the continued efforts of the cleansing staff to keep the streets tidy, one can only but deplore the thoughtlessness of the general public in this connection. I am pleased to report that the Council have agreed to pass a byelaw making it an offence to deposit litter in the streets.

Public Conveniences.

A large modern public convenience erected in the centre of the Market at Horsemarket/Woodmarket was opened in October and this, along with the existing public convenience at Abbey Row, provides adequate facilities.

Infectious Diseases.

Apart from fourteen cases of mild scarlet fever which mainly affected children between the ages of four and eight years, I am pleased to report that the year has been an uneventful one in this respect.

Slaughterhouses.

Owing to the uncertain position regarding the future of Slaughterhouses, the Council postponed the proposed scheme for modernisation of the Slaughterhouse, but repairs of a minor nature were carried out to the building and two new bodies were made for the Slaughterhouse carts.

The number of animals slaughtered in 1953 was:-

Cattle	1,482
Sheep	36,626
Pigs	545
Calves	334

Food Inspection.

During the year 260 articles of food weighing 356 lbs. were condemned as unfit for human consumption and disposed of by the Veterinary Inspector. This figure shows an increase from last year. The standard of cleanliness in most of the shops where food is sold is high, but in some cases there is definite room for improvement. The new legislation on 'Clean Food' is awaited with interest.

Burial Grounds.

Kelso Cemetery with its recent extension is now the only one in the Burgh for general use and is very well kept.

The tidying-up of the Old Churchyard, Abbey Row, was continued throughout the year, and I am pleased to say this is now complete.

Factories Act, 1937

There are 52 factories in the Burgh using mechanical power, 5 where no power is used. Two complaints by H.M. Inspector of Factories were received and dealt with.

Housing.

The improvement shown last year in the number of new houses completed has been maintained throughout this year and the figures of the post-war housing development to date are detailed below:-

	Completed	Under Construction
Temporary Houses	110	-
Non-Traditional Houses	46	38
Traditional Houses	91	25
S.S.H.A. -		
Non-Traditional Houses	46	4
Traditional Houses	12	39
Total	305	106

During the year four grants were made to owners wishing to modernise their houses under Part VII of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950; and three houses, one 5-apt. and two 4-apt., were built by private enterprise.

Miscellaneous.

Routine inspections were carried out from time to time in all cases where nuisances were reported, i.e. choked traps, drains, defective sanitary fittings, these were remedied.

ROYAL BURGH OF JEDBURGH.

Mr. Noble, Burgh Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, reports:-

Statistics.

Gross Annual Valuation	£55,405
Rateable Valuation	£48,958

Population.

Census (1931)	3139
Survey (1944)	3629
Survey (1951)	4080
Area in acres	48
Density of Population (persons per acre)	2
Birth Rate per 1,000 of population	1
Death Rate per 1,000 of population	7
Interments, including non-residents	3
Water consumed per head of population	

sments.

Consolidated Rate	- Owners	7/8d
	Occupiers	11/-d
Domestic Water Rate	- Occupiers only ...	6d

Water Supply.

The passing of another year saw little change in the method of bringing water to the Town. The reservoir scheme which took up much of the Town Council's deliberations during the year and many years previous is still in the preliminary stages. At present, sanction has been obtained to sink trial pits and bore holes at the site of the proposed works.

The various control valves in the Town were 'cut back' and during the months of June, July, September and October, the supplies were cut off at 11 p.m. for a few days only. This welcome respite from the heat after the evening meals were over, which is normal for three months of the year, was due to a very wet summer and careful attention to the springs supplying the water.

The new 6" water meter, installed early in the year, showed that for 204 days, 29,310,100 gallons of water were consumed. On a basis of 4,000 of a population, this works out at almost 36 gallons per head, or 144,000 gallons per day. However, the demand goes as high as 175,000 to 180,000 per day during the summer peak period. The repeated warnings to the public about the misuse of water for watering gardens and vehicles, etc. The figure of 36 gallons per head is reasonable, but it must be noted that the process water used by British Rayon and other firms in the Town is drawn from the Jed Water, so that in the event of new industries coming to the Town requiring a supply equivalent to the domestic one, then a larger output per head would have to be met. The present output would, therefore, be taxed by any increase in housing or industry.

During the year four repairs were made to the main distribution system, and fourteen supply pipes to various properties put in order.

Seven intimations were made to owners of private property to have repairs carried out to water apparatus. A large number of leaking taps in Council houses were attended to in the course of the year.

The springs and gathering wells at Shawburn, Ashtrees and Burn were inspected and overhauled early in the year to ensure no leakage of water was not taking place.

Chlorination was not carried out during the year.

Drainage and Sewage Disposal.

The sewage works at Woodend continued to work normally, but due to the continual wet summer, some difficulty was experienced with the sludge beds. The sludge was disposed of to local farmers, but there is no doubt whatsoever that extra sludge beds are required to ensure satisfactory functioning of the works, and this situation will be further complicated when the new extension sewage is led into the town. The area was kept reasonably free from weeds and the pumping was attended to.

Work on the new sewerage extension was started during the month of November and good progress was made. The new 18" diameter concrete pipes will extend from just above the Canongate Bridge to

the junction of the Headrig sewer at the Station Bridge. To the of the year, 654 yards of pipes were laid, 7 manholes excavated not built, and the junction with the existing sewage section made. The storm water overflow at the Station Bridge was almost complete. There is no doubt that progress on the next sections will be at a slower pace because of the possible difficulty of water interrupting the work. However, when this project is carried out, it will bring to an end the contamination of the Jed Water within the Town limits caused by sewage.

Drain Tests - 15 drain tests were carried out, 13 on private property and 2 on houses built for the County Council.

Scavenging.

Household Refuse - The normal system of kerbside collection was carried out during the year, and collections took place on four days of the week. Despite a slight increase in the number of houses in the Town, the vehicle and attendants covered the extra work without strain mechanically or otherwise. There is no doubt that at the present, one vehicle with a relief wagon to take over during maintenance periods and local holidays is sufficient for the needs of the Burgh. Over 2,200 tons of waste material were collected and disposed of during this period.

Shop Refuse - is collected with the household collection and this system has given no trouble. Each Wednesday afternoon newspaper is collected from the various shops in the Town as a special collection.

Refuse Tip - The new road to the back of the dump is more than half formed, and by the end of 1954 it should be possible to tip at one end so as to fill in an open space which has been inaccessible. One face is worked at a time, and rats are being held in check. During the year, the waste paper had to be burned, and on wet days smoke was unavoidable, but on the whole, burning rubbish was kept to a minimum and the vehicle attendants instructed not to uplift ashes. Building contractors were allowed to dump building rubbish under control, and this concession gave a considerable amount of material towards 'blinding' the face and bottoming for the road.

Salvage - During the month of July, 1952, the salvage of waste paper was discontinued because of the refusal of waste paper manufacturers to accept the material, so that no income was derived from this source during 1953. However, there are hopes that the year 1954 may bring a change of policy, and the baling of waste paper, principally cardboard, has recommenced.

Street Cleansing - The re-allocation of cleansing beats was satisfactory, and the Town was always in a clean and tidy condition except on Saturday nights and Sunday mornings. When the local dance pictures and fish and chip shops cease to operate, there is usually a great deal of litter left in the Market Square near the 'bus station. The fouling of pavements by dogs constitutes in itself a great nuisance, and it is possible that the enforcement of a byelaw would do much to clear up this undesirable state of affairs. Litter receptacles have been provided on the main streets, but a number have yet to be received from the firm concerned.

Sanding of Streets - Conditions varied a great deal, but on the whole the situation was much better than during the previous year. On the main thoroughfares and housing scheme roads, 188½ man hours, 100 hours' haulage and 66 tons of ashes were expended. The small dumps of ashes left at convenient points for the immediate use of

ggers on the beats proved very effective and enabled a much watch to be kept on the condition of the roads.

Public Conveniences - The 'Ladies' and 'Gents' at the ramparts kept in good order throughout the year, and the old urinal at end of the Townfoot Bridge was demolished as planned.

Parks

Burial Grounds - Despite trouble with equipment, the Castlewood cemetery was kept in excellent condition. During the year, 73 burials took place.

Abbey Burial Ground - This portion of ground in the precincts of the Abbey was cleaned on five occasions during the summer months, and all of it was in much better condition than in previous years.

Lothian and Allerley Well Parks - These Parks were kept in good order during the year by means of a new triple gang mower. Due to speedier action by mechanisation, it was possible to do more work on the paths, verges and flower beds with the same labour force.

Public Baths.

During the year, 14,165 attendances were recorded as follows:-

January	169	
February... ..	534	
March	777	
April	1,172	plus 542 school attenders.
May	1,474	
June	2,200	
July	2,620	plus 236 school attenders.
August	2,118	
September	1,142	
October	604	
November	326	
December... ..	251	
Total	<u>14,165</u>	

The Ph. value at all times registered at 6.8 - 7.0, and the baths were kept in excellent order during the year. The monthly average of 1,180 bathers made necessary more frequent changes of pond water, and therefore an increase in the consumption of chemicals to keep the water purified.

Public Health.

Nuisances - 7 nuisances were reported during the year, and are as follows:-

Drains choked	2
Dirty house	1
Dangerous property	3
Accumulation of rubbish	<u>1</u>
Total... ..	<u>7</u>

Written or verbal notices were served on all authors of the nuisances.

Smoke Abatements - It was unnecessary to take action in so far as the abatement of smoke nuisances was concerned.

Sanitary Condition of Schools - The general cleanliness of schools remained at a high standard and no action was found neces

Places of Public Entertainment - The picture house premises visited and inspected frequently, and no exception could be tak the cleanliness of the property.

Common Lodging Houses - There are no common lodging h within the meaning of the Act.

Tents and Vans - The Town was visited on several occasio travelling shows, and on inspection no exception could be tak the manner in which they were kept

Ambulance Service - A new Daimler ambulance was put operation during the month of July, and throughout the year 2 miles were covered and 2,908 patients carried. The new vehicl given added comfort to an already efficient service

Factories Act - Inspections 1937 and 1948 - During the yea inspections under the Act were made and notices intimate follows:-

Section 1	...	6
Section 7(b)	...	15
		<hr/>
		21

Slaughterhouse - No slaughtering has taken place in Jed since 1940.

Housing.

So far as Jedburgh is concerned, the housing situation is a major worry. The building of houses has been stopped since the e 1952, and it is not contemplated to start afresh in the very future. The present system of advertising all permanent houses window of the Council Offices, i.e. all Council houses availabl let, ensures that the property does not stand empty. Priori given to local residents, and, to date, all houses owned by the Council are occupied. There are sites available all ready ser for at least another 50 houses. During the year 30 houses bui the Scottish Special Housing Association Ltd. were taken ove allocated. No difficulty was experienced in letting houses, and prefabricated houses made available were taken up by couples not married. In all, 74 people accepted houses and 53 refused. balance of 44 houses was, of course, tenancies given up by tehar

During the year, 1,518 complaints were received and attende

Offensive Trades.

The wool merchant's business carried on under the name of Collins and the tannery occupied by J. Guthrie & Co. Jedburgh conducted in a proper manner, and at no time was it necessary to exception to the way in which these trades were conducted

Condemnation of Foodstuffs

During the year, 35 lbs. 12½ ozs. of foodstuffs as follow seized and condemned under Section 43 of the Public Health (Sco Act 1897.

Fruit (tinned)	6 lbs. 11 ozs.
Meat	27 lbs. 2½ ozs.
Soup (tinned)	15 ozs
Peas (tinned)	1 lb.
	<hr/>
	35 lbs. 12½ ozs.

Infectious Diseases - During the year, two cases of scarlet were inspected. Both were removed to hospital.

General Resume.

The staff at the end of the year was made up as follows:-

- 4 scavengers.
- 3 refuse collectors.
- 1 plumber.
- 3 semi-skilled labourers.
- 1 dump attendant.
- 1 driver, full-time.
- 1 sexton.
- 1 labourer.
- 1 park attendant.
- 1 part-time attendant (ladies' convenience).
- 1 baths superintendent.
- 1 ambulance driver.
- 1 Public Hall caretaker.
- 1 attendant (Queen Mary's House).
- 1 foreman.

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Although the year 1953 was not particularly outstanding, progress was made. The Burgh has reached its present housing limit, the sewage extension was got under way, the parks were kept in better condition and greater attempts were made to get more external repairs done to the Council-owned houses.

More work was done by direct labour methods with the same savings on the staff and repairs to the kerbs and footpaths of the housing schemes will be under way during mid 1954.

BURGH OF MELROSE.

Mr. Grant, Sanitary Inspector, reports:-

General.

Throughout the year the general health of the Burgh was very good with low incidence of Infectious Disease.

Water Supply.

The inadequacy of supply to Dingleton Hospital mentioned in the Annual Report resulted in the first quarter of the year being devoted to ascertaining the condition of the supply to the highest points in the Burgh. From the information collected it was evident that the poor supply during the summer months was caused by incrustation in the pipes from the filtration plant. The matter was taken up with the Council's Civil Engineer, Mr. Thomson, who, from the information supplied to him, prepared a report on the condition of the Council's trunk mains. Estimated costs were produced, along with

the report, for the provision of booster pumps, and also Thomson indicated that the difficulties may be solved by carrying out descaling operations on certain lengths of the main.

It was eventually decided to adopt the latter means of improving the supply and tenders were taken for the descaling of two sections amounting to 1,450 yds. of 6" main and 1,500 yds. of 7" main scraped and relined with a bituminous coating. The successful contractor, The General Descaling Company, commenced operations on the 1st July and carried out the work in the ensuing six weeks. During this time it was possible, on the whole, to provide a reasonably adequate supply to the majority of consumers, but several higher points within the Burgh suffered greatly during the day.

The success of these measures taken was obvious from the time the completion of the work when the Golf Course Service Reservoir began to build up until, within a short period of time, it regained the full mark level. There has been no further difficulty in maintaining an adequate supply to any of the properties situated at the higher parts of the Burgh.

The storage reservoirs were cleaned towards the end of the year and the Dingleton Hospital authorities carried out cleaning operations within their own reservoir.

During the latter half of the year trouble was experienced in maintaining the correct rate of filtration at the filtration plant. Arrangements were made to remove and wash all the sand from the filters. This was carried out and the resultant improvement in filtration indicates that the remaining three filters will require to be treated similarly within the next year.

Arrangements were made to fit meters to the inlet and outlet pipes at Dingleton Hospital in order to ascertain the exact Home requirements from the Council's water supply, but owing to the failure of delivery, the meters had not been fitted at the end of the year.

The average consumption for the year was 58.2 gallons per head per day as against 57 gallons per head per day for 1952.

Drainage System.

Trouble was experienced with the drain from Melrose School towards the end of the year. This drain had previously been prone to periodic choking. Investigations were carried out and a new drain was laid from the School to the Council's main sewer. In order to facilitate easier access to the new drain and the manhole was provided. Opportunity was also taken to clean the sewer which, owing to level, is very sluggish in flow. The remainder of the system functioned without trouble.

Sewage Purification and Disposal.

Sewage Purification Disposal was continued as former years. Septic tanks at Bleachfield and St. Helen's were inspected periodically and were found to be functioning without trouble.

The Screening Plant at the Slaughterhouse was regularly maintained and supervised and gave no cause for complaint throughout the year.

Offensive Trades.

Inspections of the only offensive trade in the Burgh, viz. the use of Gut Scraper, were carried out regularly and on all occasions it was found that the business was conducted efficiently.

Slaughterhouse.

These premises continue to be let as formerly.

Scavenging.

The collection and disposal of refuse continued as formerly and there was no cause for complaint. During the year it was found necessary to extend the tipping area.

Sanitary Conveniences.

Details of the various conveniences and the number of tenants to whom they are as follows:-

Number of houses without indoor water supply and sink 2

Number of Water Closets used in common by -

2 tenants	-	3
3 tenants	-	1
4 tenants	-	Nil
5 tenants	-	Nil

No privy middens or ashpits exist in the Burgh and there are no dry closets each used by one tenant.

Schools.

The sanitary condition of the schools remained satisfactory throughout the year.

Burial Grounds.

Maintenance of the Burial Grounds throughout the Burgh continued satisfactory.

Burgh Police Acts.

The few complaints received required only informal action in which they were dealt with.

Rats and Mice Destruction.

The County Rat Catcher continues to carry out periodic inspection of the refuse tip at Berryhall thus keeping infestation down to a minimum.

No complaints of excessive infestation were received during the year.

Public Conveniences.

The new Public Conveniences, situated in Abbey Street, were completed satisfactorily at the beginning of the year. Both Public Conveniences, namely, at the Greenyards and Abbey Street, were kept in a clean state throughout the year.

Housing.

The third development, comprising of twelve permanent houses at was completed and occupied during the year.

Good progress was made on the fourth development which comprises of twelve permanent houses at Priorswalk. This is the development of the scheme and by the end of the year it was expected that occupation would take place in roughly six months.

Roads (Unclassified).

All the unclassified roads in the Burgh received the regular maintenance.

Estimates were obtained for the carrying out of the resurfacing and to a small extent widening of Douglas Road. The successful tenderer, Messrs. Kings & Co. of Earlston, made a start at the end of the year with the preliminaries. It was expected that the actual resurfacing would be held up until some time in March.

Street Lighting.

The conversion to electricity at Darnick was completed towards the end of the year.

With regard to the conversion to electricity in Tweedmouth and part of Waverley Road, good progress was made and the conversion was completed in time for the lighting season.

Some trouble was experienced with the Darnick street lighting system, the cause of which was eventually attributed to the overloading of the time switch operating this system. The matter was taken up with the Electricity Board and a suitable control system was installed.